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NAKAMURA
SQ.

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中村尚儁
Naka-mura Takatoshi
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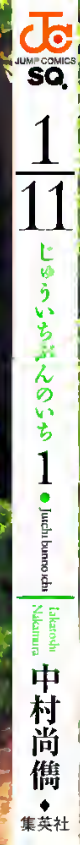
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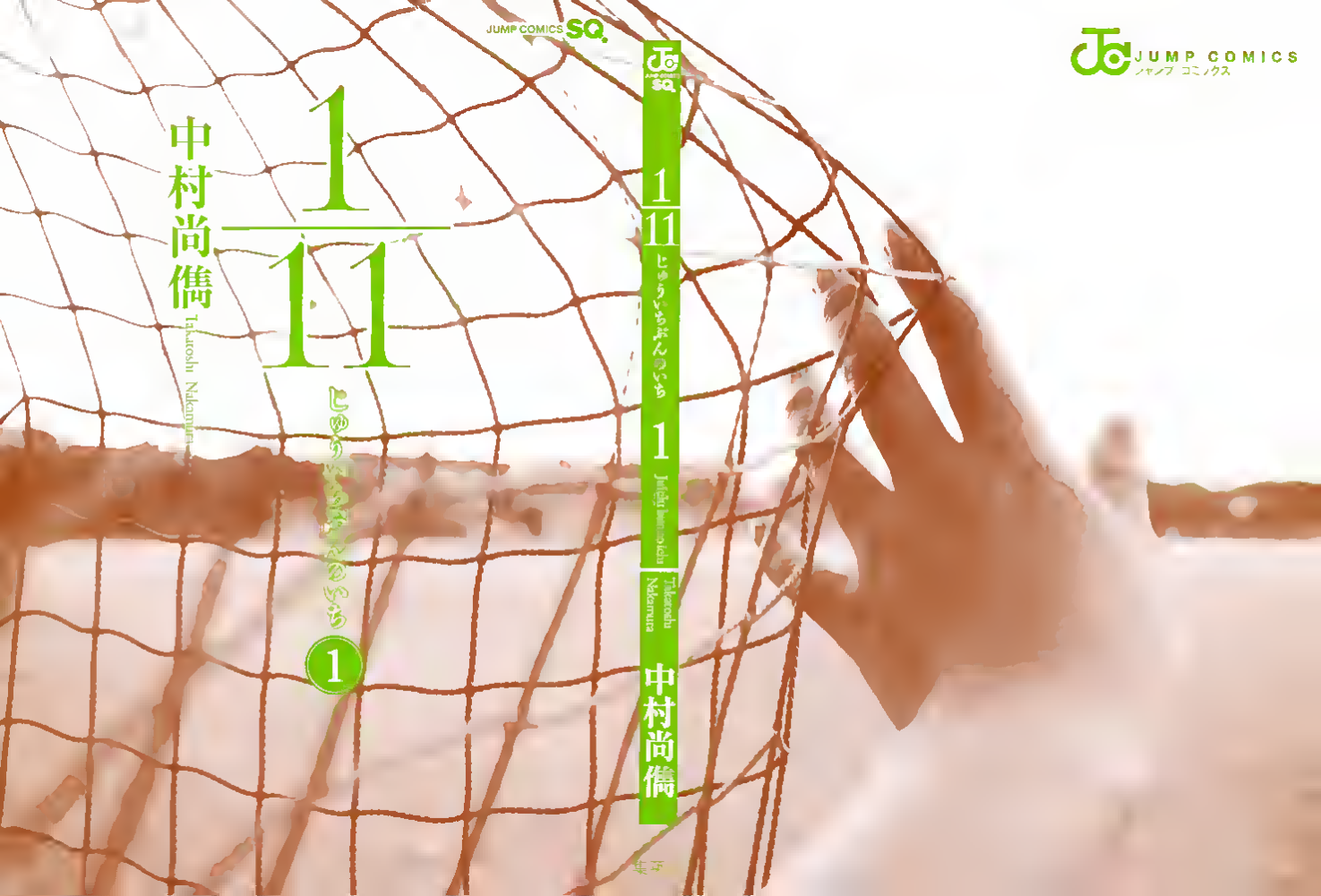
じゅういちぶんのいち 1 • Juuichi bunno ichi
Takatoshi Nakamura
中村尚儁
集英社

9784088701615
1929979005146
ISBN978-4-08-870161-5
C9979 ¥514E
定価 本体514円+税
雑誌 43093-61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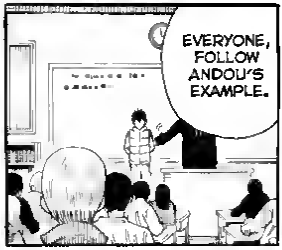
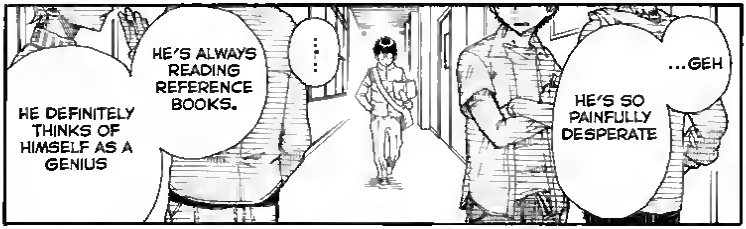
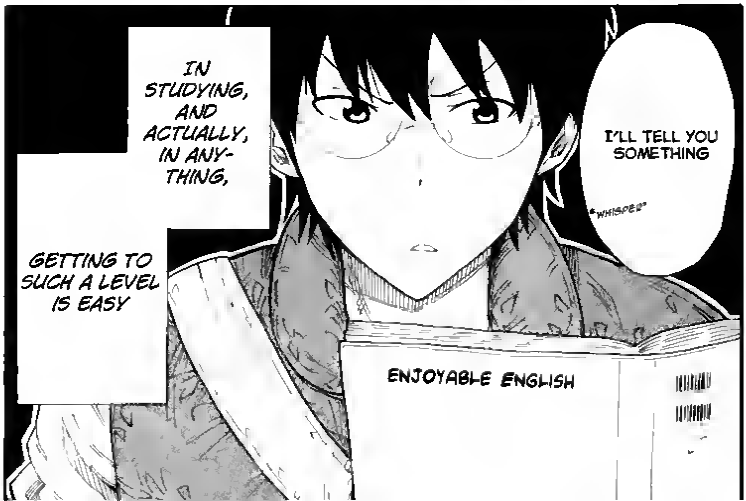
読切 エロメガネ男子×女子 165

進英学習塾
ANDOU!!
YOUR GRADES ROSE AGAIN.
IF YOU KEEP THIS UP, YOU CAN ENTER HIGH SCHOOL WITHOUT PROBLEMS!!
NO.1 WAKAMIYA SHIKI


EVERYONE, FOLLOW ANDOU'S EXAMPLE.

USU ~
THNX

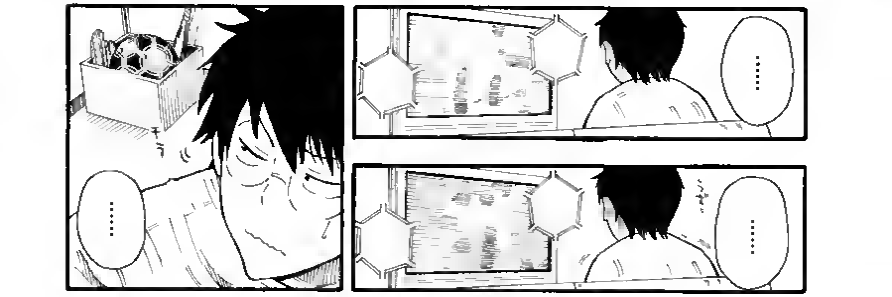

HE'S ALWAYS READING REFERENCE BOOKS.
HE DEFINITELY THINKS OF HIMSELF AS A GENIUS
...GEH
HE'S SO PAINFULLY DESPERATE


I'LL TELL YOU SOMETHING
WHISPER
IN STUDYING, AND ACTUALLY, IN ANY-THING,
GETTING TO SUCH A LEVEL IS EASY
ENJOYABLE ENGLISH

NO.1 WAKAMIYA SHIKI

WAKAMIYA SHIKI...
HER TRANSFER TO THE AMERICAN LEAGUE HAS ALREADY BEEN DECIDED, TOO.
JAPANESE REPRESENTATIVE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

IS WHAT YOU'D CALL A GENIUS, SOMEONE CHOSEN BY GOD
SUCH A PERSON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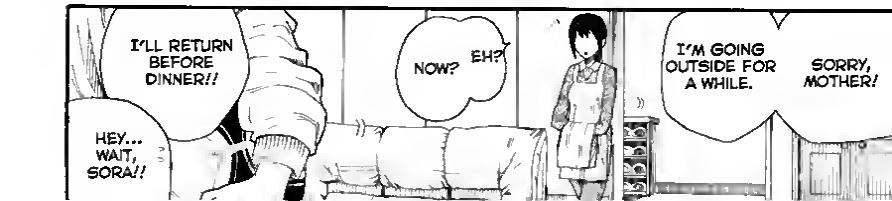
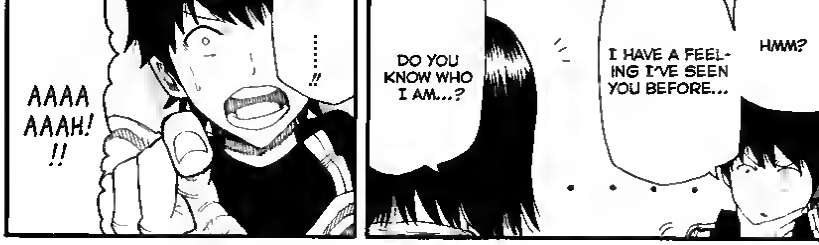
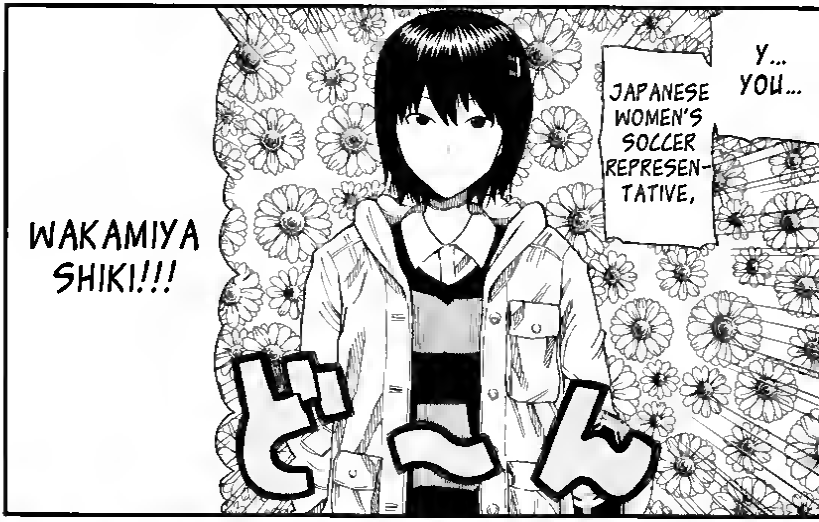

I'LL RETURN BEFORE DINNER!!
HEY... WAIT, SORA!!
NOW?
EH?
I'M GOING OUTSIDE FOR A WHILE.
SORRY, MOTHER!

IT'S NEWS ABOUT THAT PLAYER, WAKAMIYA
SERI-OUSLY, IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
BELIEVE IT OR NOT,
ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED...
EH NEXT IS / AN URGENT REPORT //
JUST WHEN I THOUGHT THAT HE WAS GETTING IMMERSED IN STUDYING...
JEEZ...
THIS WAS ALL ABOUT WAKAMIYA
SURELY, SOCCER AGAIN...
SIGH
BUT WELL...
I'LL JUST PLAY FOR A BIT, SO IT WILL BE FINE.
IT HAS BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME,
THIS MIGHT BE A GOOD CHANGE OF PACE.
AFTER SEEING THAT ON TV, MY BODY SUDDENLY STARTED TO THROB...
LATELY, I'VE FINALLY BEEN INTO STUDYING, BUT...
PUT ON CONTACTS

!!
!!
THIS IS DANGEROUS I NEED TO AVOID HER
WHA..
A PERSON!? WHEN DID SHE...
GYAAAAAAA!!!
...SAY...
HMM...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT...?

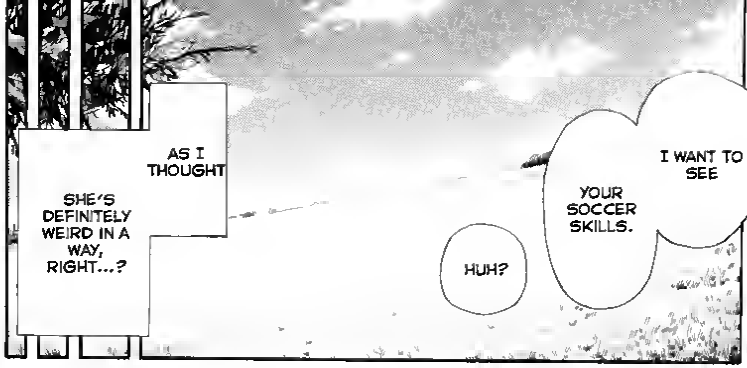
SOMEHOW... IT LOOKS LIKE I DIDN'T INJURE MYSELF...
...NG... YEAH
ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
HMM?
...HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NAME...?
!
.....
ANDOU SORA-KUN...
LIKE SOCCER, RIGHT...?
YOU...
IT'S WRITTEN HERE CLEARLY.
.....

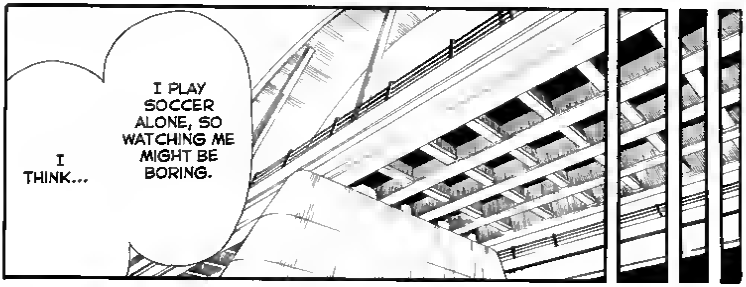

AAAA AAAH!!
!!
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM...?
I HAVE A FEELING I'VE SEEN YOU BEFORE...
HMM?

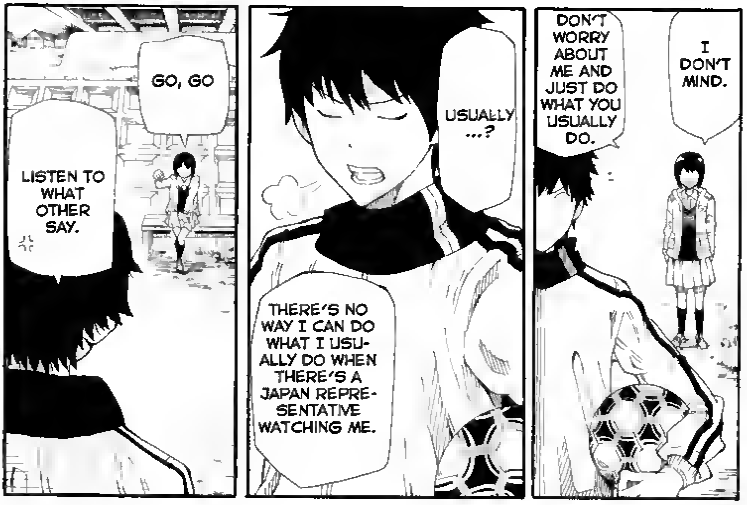

WAKAMIYA SHIKI!!!
どーん
JAPANESE WOMEN'S SOCCER REPRESENTATIVE,
Y... YOU...

IT'S STRANGE TO COME TO SUCH TOWN ON TRIP EMPTY-HANDED...
FOR SOME REASON, SHE SEEMS WEIRD...
ON TOP OF THAT, WHAT'S WITH THE WHISTLING ...?
ひゅ～ひゅ～
WELL
SOMETHING LIKE TRIP...
RATHER
!
WELL,
YEAH...
...WH
WHY ARE YOU HERE...?

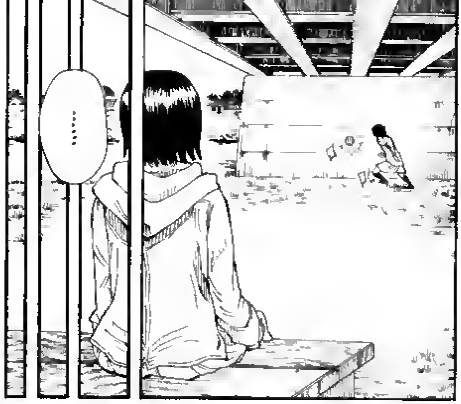
THEY MIGHT BE STRANGE IN SOME WAY...
.....
AND REGARDING GENIUSES...
BUT IF I THINK ABOUT IT,
.....
SHE'S A GENIUS...
EVEN IF YOU WANT ME TO, THERE AREN'T ANY FAMOUS PLACES IN THIS COUNTRYSIDE TOWN...
...IT DOESN'T NEED TO BE FAMOUS.
GUIDE?
HM?...
HMPH...
I WOULD LIKE YOU TO GUIDE ME AROUND THIS TOWN.
IF YOU CAN,
TO PLACE YOU'RE HEADING TO AS WELL.
TAKE ME WITH YOU...
YOU PLAY SOCCER, RIGHT...?
THIS MEANS THAT BALL...
HUH?


AS I THOUGHT
SHE'S DEFINITELY WEIRD IN A WAY, RIGHT...?
HUH?
I WANT TO SEE YOUR SOCCER SKILLS.


I THINK...
I PLAY SOCCER ALONE, SO WATCHING ME MIGHT BE BORING.


GO, GO
LISTEN TO WHAT OTHER SAY.
USUALLY ...?
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO WHAT I USUALLY DO WHEN THERE'S A JAPAN REPRESENTATIVE WATCHING ME.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT ME AND JUST DO WHAT YOU USUALLY DO.
I DON'T MIND.

THE COURSE OF EVENTS HAS BECOME STRANGE
JEEZ
THE SENSATION THAT I FORGOT
HAS BEEN REVIVED
BUT STILL
MY BODY IS MOVING ON ITS OWN
THE BEST!
AS I THOUGHT, SOCCER IS
.....
!!


.....
DAMN... IT HAS BEEN A LONG TIME, BUT
I STILL REMEMBERED THAT...
.....

I COMPLETELY FORGOT THAT YOU WERE HERE...!!
IT'S ALREADY SO LATE. I GOT SO ENGROSSED THAT...
SORRY!!

...I
IS THAT SO...?
...BUT

I DON'T MIND
SO SORRY!

.. IT WAS VERY GOOD
ESPECIALLY YOUR DRIBBLING
YOUR SOCCER.

WHEN YOU WERE PLAYING SOCCER...
YOU WERE MAKING A VERY PAINED EXPRESSION HALF WAY THROUGH.
...
WHY...?

...
... IS THAT SO?

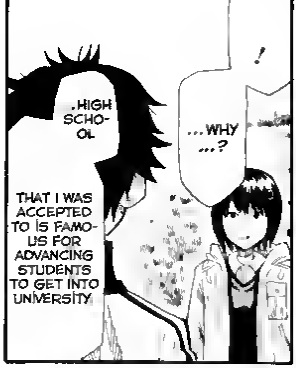
...
IT WAS NOT KING
I JUST DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH STAMINA

AH
BUT THE LAST MATCH FOR THE SENIORS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL IS THIS WEEKEND, SO I'M PROBABLY STILL A CLUB MEMBER...?
RIGHT BEFORE MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATION, I LEFT.
RATHER THAN JOINED, IT WOULD BE MORE ACCURATE TO SAY "ENTERED."

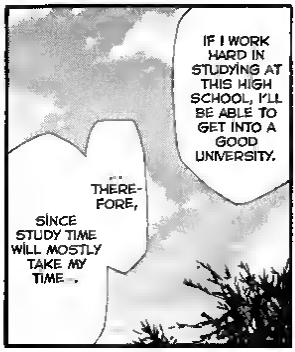
...
BUT YOUR SKILLFULNESS IN SOCCER MUST MEAN...
THAT YOU JOINED A SOCCER CLUB, RIGHT...?

...

I SEE...
THEN, YOU'LL PLAY SOCCER IN HIGH SCHOOL NEXT...


!
...WHY ...?
...HIGH SCHO-OL
THAT I WAS ACCEPTED TO IS FAMO-US FOR ADVANCING STUDENTS TO GET INTO UNIVERSITY

PERHAPS
I WON'T BE JOINING A SOCCER CLUB IN HIGH SCHOOL.


IF I WORK HARD IN STUDYING AT THIS HIGH SCHOOL, I'LL BE ABLE TO GET INTO A GOOD UNIVERSITY.
...THERE-FORE,
SINCE STUDY TIME WILL MOSTLY TAKE MY TIME...

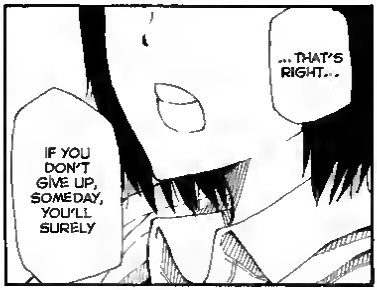
...BUT...
FOR SOMEONE LIKE YOU WHO IS GOOD AT SOCCER, IT WILL BE A WASTE...

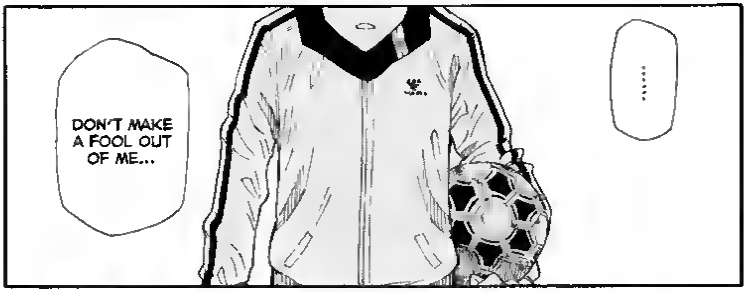
I WON'T PLAY SOCCER
SERIOUSLY ANYMORE.

I HAVE ALREADY DECIDED.
..., I AM HAPPY THAT A JAPAN REPRESEN-TATIVE TELLS ME THAT, BUT

FROM NOW ON YOU'LL BECOME EVEN BETTER AT IT
SURELY ...
.....
YOU ARE CERTAINLY TALENTED...
..BUT... ...BUT...

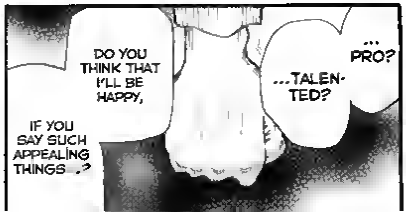
A PRO.
BECOME


IF YOU DON'T GIVE UP, SOMEDAY, YOU'LL SURELY
...THAT'S RIGHT...


DON'T MAKE A FOOL OUT OF ME...
.....

AH...
THAT'S NOT IT..
THAT'S NOT WHAT I WAS DOING...

...
EH?


DO YOU THINK THAT I'LL BE HAPPY,
IF YOU SAY SUCH APPEALING THINGS..?
...PRO?
...TALENTED?

I'M DIFFERENT FROM A GENIUS LIKE YOU.
DON'T THOUGHT-LESSLY TELL OTHERS THAT THEY CAN BECOME PROS!!
AH...
.....
.....
...I'M GOING BACK ALREADY ...
.....
... SORRY FOR BLURTING IT OUT...

I SAID TOO MUCH...
AND I EVEN NEGLECTED HER...
... BUT
IT CAN'T BE HELPED...
.....
BECAUSE SHE CASUALLY SAID, "YOU'LL BECOME A PRO"...
EVER SINCE I WAS A CHILD,
I WAS AN UNRIVALED DRIBBLER.

AMONG THE NEIGHBORHOOD FRIENDS I PLAYED WITH, THERE WAS ONE
CALLED TSUYOSHI.
I'VE NEVER HAD A RIVAL IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.
I WAS ALWAYS THE STAR OF MY FRIENDS WHO PLAY SOCCER
TSUYOSHI SUCKED AT SOCCER A LOT.
AUU
SWA
CK
TAO
HAHA
YOU REALLY SUCK TSUYOSHI
MAYBE BECAUSE OF THAT.
HE BECAME THE MOST EMOTIONALLY ATTACHED TO ME, WHO WAS SKILLED AT SOCCER, OUT OF ALL OUR SOCCER FRIENDS.
ONE DAY, TSUYOSHI SAID,
... I'VE ALWAYS THOUGHT ABOUT IT....
IF IT'S SORA KUN...
YOU'LL SURELY BECOME A PRO SOCCER PLAYER.
I WAS HAPPY

(SHIRT TAG:) TSUYOSHI

HE'S SO GOOD!!
OOH
MY DRIBBLING WAS VERY USEFUL.
AND I BECAME THE TEAM'S ACE.
AT THAT CUE, I JOINED THE TOWN'S SOCCER CLUB.
N... NICE TO MEET YOU!!
I WAS SO NAIVE THAT I TOOK TSUYOSHI'S WORDS TO HEART.
MY SOCCER WAS ALL DRIBBLING.
BECOME BETTER
MUST...
THAT I DRIBBLED EVEN MORE.
I WAS SO SELF-CONSCIOUS AFTER BEING CALLED THE ACE
TSUYOSHI, YOUR WORDS WERE RIGHT
I'LL PROVE IT ONE DAY WITH MY DRIBBLING...!!
BUT TSUYOSHI'S WORDS WERE ALWAYS INSIDE ME.
THAT I DIDN'T PLAY WITH TSUYOSHI AND THE OTHERS ANYMORE.
AT THAT TIME, I WAS SO CAUGHT UP WITH SOCCER AT THE CLUB

EVER SINCE I ENTERED MIDDLE SCHOOL THE WIND'S DIRECTION CHANGED.
BUT
AAH
LIKE BEFORE, I WAS STILL THE ACE IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
THEN I NOTICED MY OVERWHELMING DRIBBLING WAS GETTING SURPASSED.
THE GUYS AROUND ME GREW TALLER.
BUT I BARELY GREW.
EVERY DAY, I WOULD DESPERATELY DRIBBLE WITH ZEAL.
SO I NEED TO GET MY ACT TOGETHER.
I'M THE ACE,
BUT I STILL REMEMBERED TSUYOSHI'S WORDS.
I SUDDENLY REALIZED
I
DURING THE LAST MATCH IN MY 3RD YEAR OF MIDDLE SCHOOL
BUT

HIS PLAYS CAN'T BE DESCRIBE IN ANY OTHER WAY BESIDES THAT OF A DIFFERENT DIMENSION
THE OPPONENT'S ACE WAS A JAPAN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE.
...WHAT... ...YOU'LL BECOME A PRO.
HA
WHAT AN ACE...
WHIS-TLE
WE WERE DEFEATED BY A GREAT DIFFERENCE
EVERYTHING I HAD, INCLUDING MY DRIBBLING WAS STOPPED

IN THE END, I WOULD RATHER LISTEN TO THE FELLOW WHO SUCKED AT SOCCER MORE THAN I DID...
SO I WASN'T AMAZING... IN THE END...?
...I'M
THE LATTER
AND THOSE WHO AREN'T...
IN THE WORLD, THERE ARE THOSE CHOSEN BY GOD
.....
WILL MAKE ME DREAM...
DON'T TELL ME ANYTHING THAT...

...
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SENPAI...?
...
ARE
KAMIYA 13
GUH...
YEAH
I'M ALRIGHT
DON'T PLAY DIFFERENTLY JUST BECAUSE IT'S A RETIREMENT MATCH. COME AT ME AS USUAL!
END OF FIRST HALF!!
...
SORRY
I'LL GO TO REST OVER THERE A LITTLE
ARE YOU ALRIGHT, SORA?
...
YEAH...
JUST LITTLE EXHAUSTED, I'LL COME BACK RIGHT AWAY

... WHAT PRO...
SO SHAME-FUL
JUST SEVERAL MONTHS OF NOT PLAYING AND I CAN'T EVEN BEAT A KOUHAI
10
.....
!!
RUSTLE
.....!
I'M SORRY ...
ARE YOU HERE...?
... WHY
BECAUSE... YOU SAID THAT YOU'RE HAVING A MATCH AT SCHOOL WHEN WE MET DURING THE WEEKEND. .
...I WANTED TO APOLO-GIZE FOR ANGERING YOU...
.....
THAT'S ENOUGH.
I SAID TOO MUCH LAST TIME, TOO.

BECAUSE SOME TIME AGO I THOUGHT "I MIGHT BECOME PRO" AS WELL.
THE TRUTH IS
THE REASON I GOT MAD WAS...
AND REALIZED
... BUT
DURING THE LAST MATCH IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I PLAYED AGAINST A JAPAN REPRESENTATIVE CANDIDATE
AND I PLANNED TO WORK HARD AT SOCCER EVERY DAY.
AS THE TEAM'S ACE, I WAS DESPERATE,
NOT OF THOSE CHOSEN BY THE SOCCER GOD,...
...I'M
.....
... READY... GO!
WHY DID IT SUDDENLY COME TO THIS!?
... NO, NO, WAIT A MINUTE!
...I'M COMING.
LISTEN!!
TAP
SO LET'S PLAY 1-ON-1.
IT'S JUST AN OLD LOOKING BALL,
...HUH?
... GOOD
there we go

!!!
WHAT A SPEEDY, SKILLFUL DRIBBLE... SHE'S GOOD!!
UOH
HER MOVES ARE SO SKILLED,
AND SHE USES A LOT OF FEINTS SO IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO PREDICT WHERE SHE'S GOING
UH
AS EXPECTED FROM A REPRESENTATIVE
I CAN'T TAKE THE BALL FROM HER AT ALL
DAMN
...HMM?
BUT SHE'S NOT MAKING MISTAKES...
EVEN THOUGH THERE'S A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN BOYS AND GIRLS, THE OPPONENT IS A REPRESENTATIVE.
NO WAY...
SHE PLANS TO GET PAST ME.

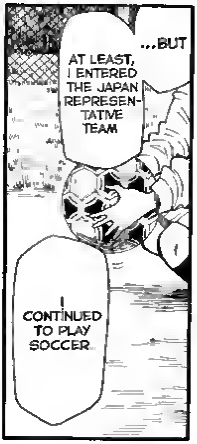
.....
AH!!
KAMIYA 10
CRAP!!
I WASN'T PAYING ATTENTION!
KUH
AH!!

SORRY!!
ARE YOU ALRIGHT!?
...THIS IS THE BEST I CAN DO AT 1-ON-1...

!
THE SAME AS ME NOW.

... I DON'T HAVE AN OVERWHELMING RUNNING SPEED.
BECAUSE MY BODY IS SMALL,
I GET TIRED EASILY..

NOT SOMETHING YOU DO ALONE.
...THAT'S BECAUSE SOCCER IS


I CONTINUED TO PLAY SOCCER.
AT LEAST, I ENTERED THE JAPAN REPRESENTATIVE TEAM
...BUT

LISTEN TO MY STORY FOR A BIT?
CAN YOU....

... WHAT DO YOU MEAN...?
.....
KAMIYA
10

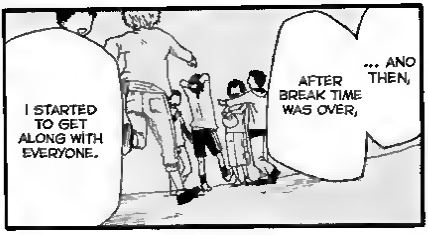
I'M BAD AT TALKING, SO AT THE NEW PLACE, I COULDN'T REALLY MAKE FRIENDS...
I WAS VERY SAD...
I ALWAYS HAD A DARK EXPRESSION...
...

WHEN I WAS SMALL, MY PARENTS GOT A DIVORCE.
...
AFTER THAT, I WAS SEPARATED FROM THE TOWN I WAS RAISED AT...

A NUMBER OF PEOPLE GATHERED TOGETHER BY CHANCE, AND I WAS TAKEN IN TO PLAY SOCCER.
...BUT ONE DAY AT BREAK TIME,

IF SOCCER WERE TO BE PLAYED ALONE, I WOULD ALWAYS HAVE STAYED ALONE...
BUT BECAUSE I PLAY SOCCER, I WON'T BE ALONE...

...I PRACTICED WITH ALL MY STRENGTH.
... I SUCKED AT IT, BUT SINCE I WAS A KID WHO LOVED SOCCER...


I STARTED TO GET ALONG WITH EVERYONE.
AFTER BREAK TIME WAS OVER,
... AND THEN,

FOR ME, SOCCER,
IN VARIOUS MEANINGS,
IS SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE DONE ALONE...
.....
I DON'T REALLY GET WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY.
THE FIRST RULE OF SOCCER IS THAT IT IS PLAYED WITH 11 PEOPLE ON A TEAM.
.....
KAMIYA
...FOR EXAMPLE, DURING THE 1-ON-1 BEFORE...
EVEN IF I DID A PASS FEINT, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE FALLEN FOR IT,
BECAUSE IN 1-ON-1, THERE ISN'T ANYONE TO PASS THE BALL TO.
....

THAT'S THE EXAMPLE...
...BUT
IN A GAME, YOU HAVE TEAM-MATES.
THERE-FORE,
YOU MIGHT HAVE BEEN CAUGHT BY THAT FEINT-
...WHAT
YOU'RE TRYING TO SAY IS THAT I SHOULD DO MORE FEINTS?
THAT'S THE PRINCIPLE?
NO— THAT'S NOT WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY...
SMOOK
WELL ...
LET'S PUT THE SHALLOW MEANING OF THE STORY ON THE SIDE
YOU'RE ...
THIS... WHAT...
I GET THAT YOU'RE TRYING TO HELP ME...
THANKS
whisper...
THANKS TO YOU, I FEEL MORE AT EASE.
...WELL THEN,
IT'S ALREADY THE SECOND HALF SO,
I'LL GET GOING.
.....
10
...I STILL
SUCK AT TALKING...

SECOND HALF, KICK OFF!!
I COULDN'T SAY EVEN ONE...
FROM THE THINGS I REALLY WANTED TO TELL HIM,
TELLING ME TO USE A PASS FEINT, THEN
SHIKI, IF YOU'RE
YEA!!
SORA!!
GO-OD,
THAT SHOULD BE ENOUGH OF A LURE
I'LL DO IT.

24
WHY?
EH?
WHY
WHY DIDN'T HE FALL FOR THE FEINT?
GUH!!
EVEN IF I DID A PASS FEINT, YOU WOULDN'T HAVE FALLEN FOR IT,
BECAUSE IN 1-ON-1, THERE ISN'T ANYONE TO PASS THE BALL TO

I SEE...

THE DEFENDER KNEW THAT I WASN'T GOING TO PASS.

UP UNTIL NOW, I HAVEN'T PLAYED ANY OTHER SOCCER BESIDES THIS KIND
TAKING THE BALL, DRIBBLING IT, AND DECIDING THE MATCH WITH A GOAL

BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE A TEAM,

...

IT'S THE SAME AS PLAYING SOCCER ALONE.

SOMETHING YOU DO ALONE....
SOCCER ISN'T
.....
sfx: tap
KAMIYA 10
SORA!!
I KNOW HIS PATTERN...
BUT
HE'S COMING AGAIN
.....
sfx: dash
24
10
!
DRIBBLING ALL BY HIMSELF ISN'T THAT SCARY.

!!
PASS!!?
24
DAMN, NO ONE'S MARKING HIM!!
.....
SFX kick

24
EH...
DAMN
IT'S A ONE-TWO PASS!!

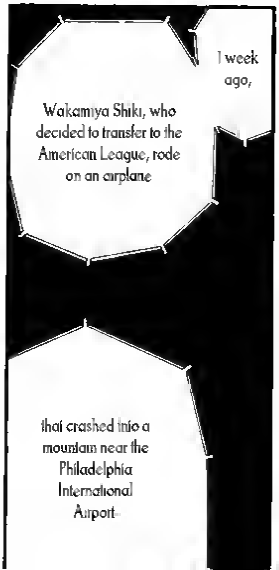
AAH
SO CLOSE.
HAHA...
I MISSED ...
BUT
... WITH THIS,
WE CAN CREATE ANOTHER CHANCE.
ポ。
.....
24
SFX: fly

YEA!!
WE'LL DECIDE IT WITH THE NEXT CHANCE.
... GOOD
.....
... I FINALLY...
SEE YOU ENJOYING PLAYING SOCCER...
THANK YOU...
AFTER THE MATCH
SHIKI,
I FEEL LIKE
.....
I UNDERSTAND A LITTLE OF WHAT YOU WERE TRYING TO SAY.
FIRST, LET'S TAKE 1 POINT!!
GET THE BALL TO SORA AGAIN.
NICE SHOOT!
"SOCCER
ISN'T SOMETHING YOU DO ALONE"
THAT COMBINATION JUST NOW WAS GREAT
NEXT TIME!
9
10
UNTIL NOW, I
THOUGHT THAT IT'S AN ACE, I SHOULDN'T BE STOPPED.
DON'T MIND, DON'T MIND!
I THOUGHT THAT RELYING ON FRIENDS
IS JUST RUNNING AWAY.
IT WAS A NICE ONE-TWO.
NICE PASS!!
... BUT
MAYBE, THAT'S NOT THE CASE
IT MIGHT BE FINE IF I DON'T DECIDE THE GOAL
ALONE

I'M BACK.
I COULDN'T FIND SHIKI ANYWHERE

Wakamiya Shiki report,
Now, we'll continue with the Japanese women's soccer representative
HMM?

WELCOME BACK.
PHEW I'M SO TIRED.


1 week ago,
Wakamiya Shiki, who decided to transfer to the American League, rode on an airplane
that crashed into a mountain near the Philadelphia International Airport

.. BUT I WONDER WHERE SHE WENT
HOH
As you all probably already know,

WHAT TIMING
THAT REMINDS ME, THE OTHER DAY, THEY MADE A REPORT ON HER, TOO, ON TV

Since the accident, the whereabouts of Wakamiya-san have been unknown for 1 week.
But some time ago, Wakamiya-san's corpse has been found.
... EH
.....
1 WEEK AGO...?
BUT I... MET HER TODAY...
... NO
... WAY...
... SHE WAS STILL YOUNG.
SHE WAS GOOD AT SOCCER AS WELL, RIGHT?

NO WAY, IN OUR TOWN!?
THAT GIRL WAS BORN HERE...?
Wakamiya was born in OO town in the OO prefecture
...
EH?
IS THAT SO?
.....
AND SHE'S ABOUT YOUR AGE, RIGHT...?
...! PERHAPS
SORA, ISN'T THAT SHIKI-CHAN!?
WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE...
ABOUT THE TIME BEFORE YOU WENT TO ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, YOU PLAYED WITH HER.
HUH?
.... WHAT, YOU FORGOT?
THOUGH IT HAPPENED WHEN YOU WERE LITTLE, YOU PLAYED TOGETHER A LOT.
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
MOTHER ...?
THE ONE WHO LIVED IN 3RD DISTRICT...
AH!! THAT REMINDS ME,

WHICH REMINDS ME...
WHEN I WAS SMALL MY PARENTS GOT A DIVORCE...
!
ABOUT THE TIME YOU WERE GOING TO ENTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, HER PARENTS GOT A DIVORCE AND SHE MOVED AWAY.
THAT WE WERE ACQUAINTANCES...
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW
...when I was small...
In my neighborhood, there was a boy who was very good at soccer...
He...
was so skilled that I thought he might become pro
When did you start playing soccer?
When did you start playing soccer?
...thot would be...
EH...
...so I...
wanted to be like him
playing soccer so happily
...he... was always surrounded by friends...

... ERM...
SO SHIKI-CHAN'S SURNAME
CHANGED AFTER HER PARENTS GOT A DIVORCE...
When I got into elementary school, I got separated from that boy, but
when I play soccer,
I always have his soccer-playing appearance in my mind.
AT THE TIME, HER SURNAME SURELY
WAS LIKE A BOY'S NAME...
... BUT I WONDER WHAT IT WAS...

AH!! HER!!
THAT'S RIGHT!!
TSUYOSHI...
TSUYORI, TSU FROM TSUNAMI AND YORI FROM HIDEYOSHI!!
IT WAS TSUYOSHI SHIKI-CHAN!!
THIS IS A LIE, RIGHT ...?
.....
THERE'S NO WAY...
"TSUYOSHI" WAS HER SURNAME...?
BUT MOREOVER,

... SORA-KUN
WAKAMIYA SHIKI, THE GENIUS WHO CLIMBED UP TO THE LEVEL OF JAPAN REPRESENTATIVE.
WAS ACTUALLY THAT "TSUYOSHI" WHO SUCKED.

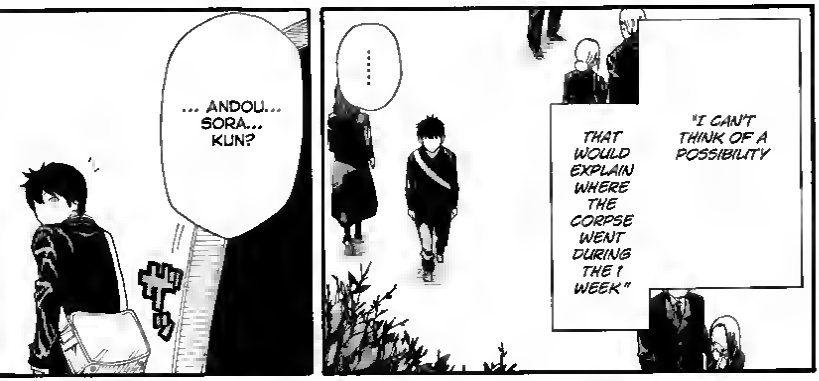
MAYBE, I DON'T HAVE TALENT.
REALIZING THAT, I DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH MOTIVATION TO COMPENSATE FOR THAT.

PERSON CHOSEN BY THE SOCCER GOD?
WHAT A FOOLISH THING TO THINK ABOUT.

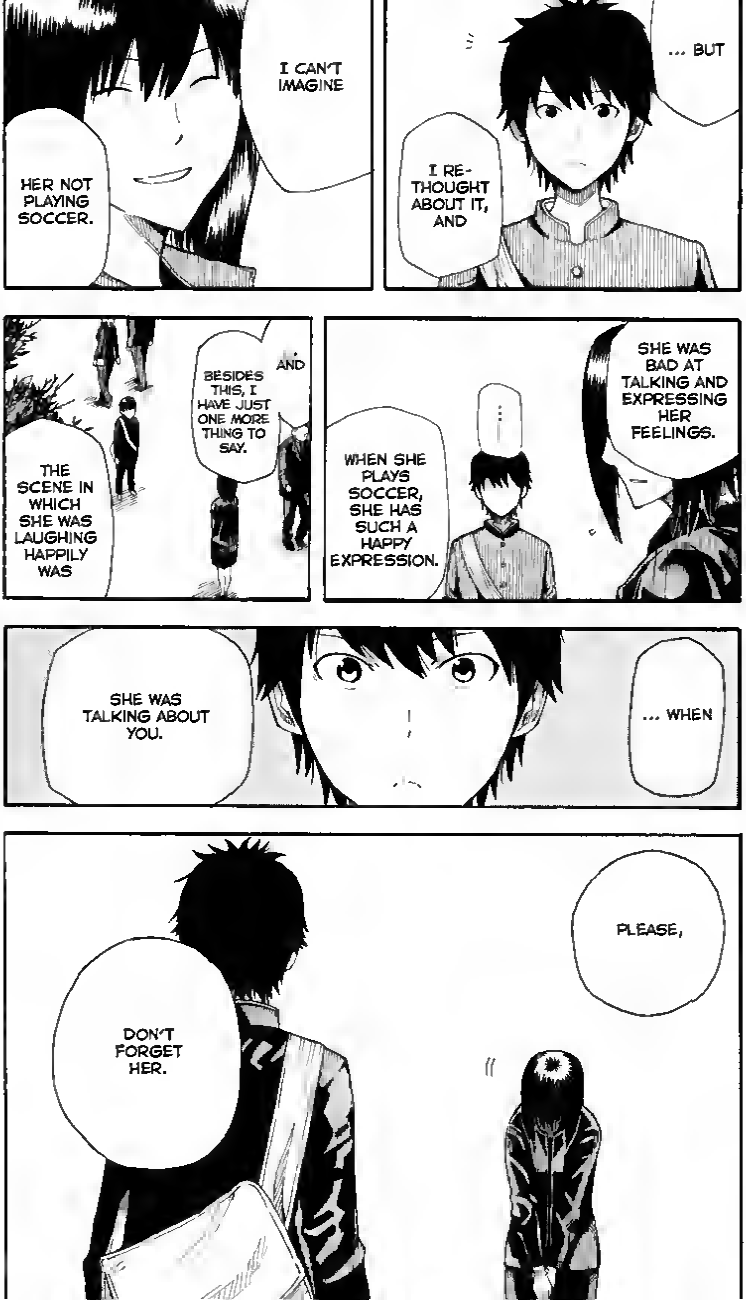
TSUYOSHI, NO, SHIKI
SAID THAT,
YOU HAVE A LOT MORE TALENT THAN I.
SHE CAME HERE TO SPECIALLY CONVEY THAT MESSAGE TO ME.
WHO MOPED WILLFULLY ALONE.
Don't you want to meet the boy who inspired you to play soccer?
... but I don't think he will remember me.
... because he doesn't know me by Wakashima Shiki...
... but
...
...th t's right...
...

if he didn't recognize me...
...even so, I wouldn't mind
I just want to see him play soccer with a happy expression one more time...
someday...
when I get a long break...
ON THAT DAY, 1 WEEK AFTER THE ACCIDENT OCCURRED, WAKAMIYA SHIKI'S CORPSE WAS FOUND.

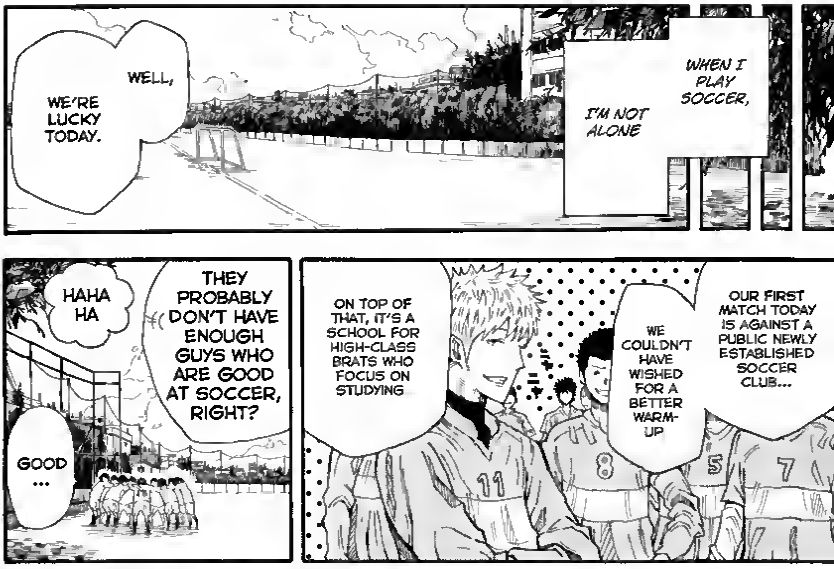
THE TRUTH IS, THE PLACE WHERE THE CORPSE WAS FOUND HAS BEEN SEARCHED MANY TIMES BY LIFESAVING PARTIES
BUT
AUTHORIZED PEOPLE HAVE NO IDEA WHY THE CORPSE WASN'T FOUND AT THAT PLACE FOR A WEEK


... ANDOU... SORA... KUN?
"I CAN'T THINK OF A POSSIBILITY
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN WHERE THE CORPSE WENT DURING THE 1 WEEK"

WHEN I WAS NOTIFIED ABOUT THIS ACCIDENT
I'VE BEEN THINKING THAT IT WOULD'VE BEEN BETTER IF SHE NEVER PLAYED SOCCER.
AH ...
HELLO ...
SHIKI STARTED SOCCER, RIGHT?
BECAUSE SHE ADMIRED YOU..
I'M SHIKI'S MOTHER.


I CAN'T IMAGINE
HER NOT PLAYING SOCCER.
... BUT
I RE-THOUGHT ABOUT IT, AND
AND
BESIDES THIS, I HAVE JUST ONE MORE THING TO SAY.
THE SCENE IN WHICH SHE WAS LAUGHING HAPPILY WAS
SHE WAS BAD AT TALKING AND EXPRESSING HER FEELINGS.
...
WHEN SHE PLAYS SOCCER, SHE HAS SUCH A HAPPY EXPRESSION.
... WHEN
SHE WAS TALKING ABOUT YOU.
PLEASE,
DON'T FORGET HER.

I WON'T FORGET HER.
.....
SHIKI-SAN WILL, TSUYOSHI WILL...
BE IN MY MIND EVERY TIME I PLAY SOCCER.
FROM NOW ON AS WELL
AND RIGHT NOW


WELL, WE'RE LUCKY TODAY.
I'M NOT ALONE
WHEN I PLAY SOCCER,
HAHA HA
THEY PROBABLY DON'T HAVE ENOUGH GUYS WHO ARE GOOD AT SOCCER, RIGHT?
GOOD ...
ON TOP OF THAT, IT'S A SCHOOL FOR HIGH-CLASS BRATS WHO FOCUS ON STUDYING
WE COULDN'T HAVE WISHED FOR A BETTER WARM-UP
OUR FIRST MATCH TODAY IS AGAINST A PUBLIC NEWLY ESTABLISHED SOCCER CLUB...

LET'S ENJOY IT!!
Y YEA!!
DON'T BE SCARED.
TODAY IS OUR COM-MEMORATIVE FIRST BATTLE!!

.... I MADE YOU WAIT FOR A LONG TIME, SORRY...
.....

LET'S GO.
..COME NOW.
CAN HAVE A FRESH START.
FINALLY, FROM NOW ON, WE
whistle
TSUYOSHI...

NINA,
IF I RECALL CORRECTLY, IT'S GETTING NEAR THE TERM FINALS ...
ARE YOU STUDYING HARD?
Y...
YEAH
I'M GOING TO THE LIBRARY EVERYDAY.
I SEE...
THEN IT'S FINE.
KEEP STU-DYING HARD.
...EVEN IF YOU ARE IN A CLUB, PARTICIPATING IN CLUB ACTIVITIES BEFORE THE EXAMS...
IS A WASTE OF TIME.
THE GO-HOME CLUB IS THE RIGHT THING TO JOIN,
NINA
...
THAT'S
RIGHT
AHAHA...
I,
SHINOMORI NINA, AM CURRENTLY IN MY 1ST YEAR OF HIGH SCHOOL.

I'M MANAGER OF THE SOCCER CLUB.
FIGHT!!
THERE'S NO ONE ON THE OTHER SIDE.
whistle
THE TRUTH IS - BEHIND PARENTS BACK,
WITH ALL MY RESOLVE,
NO. 2 SHINOMORI NINA

YES
5TH SET IS OVER
GOOD WORK
USU

AH... YES
SHINOMORI!!

SORRY, BUT COULD YOU GO AHEAD AND PREPARE IT IN AUDIOVISUAL ROOM?
AFTER THIS IS OVER, I'M GOING TO WATCH THE VIDEO OF THE MATCH BEFORE.

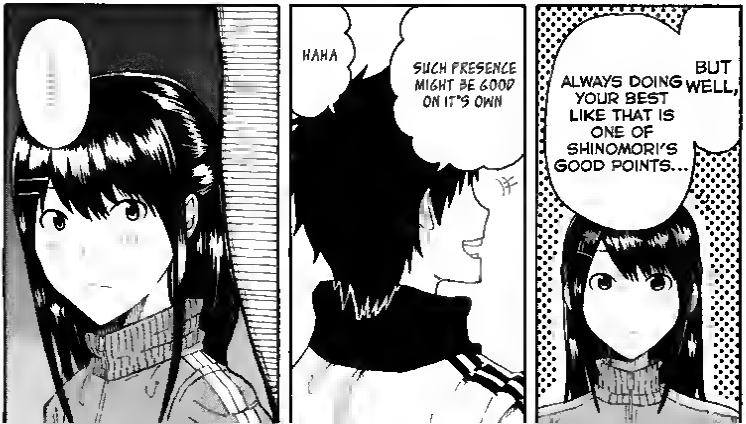
AH...
SURE!
I GOT IT
ANDOU-KUN

I
GOOD, THEN EVERYONE
LET'S WRAP IT FOR TODAY
YEAH
LIKE SOCCER.

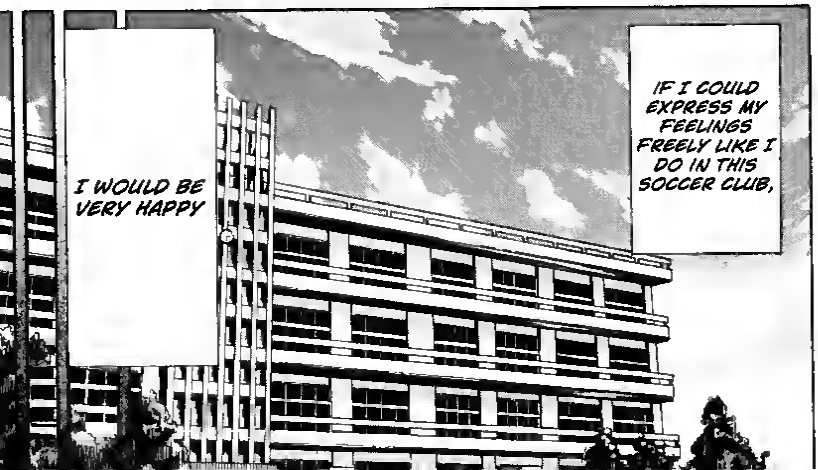
I LIKE THIS SOCCER CLUB IN WHICH
EVERYONE WANTS TO IMPROVE.

AAAAAAAAARGH THAT WAS CLOSE
GO OVER THERE
AND
.....

GYAAAA
... I'M SORRY...
HOGE
WAAH
.....
... SHINOMORI... I'M HAPPY THAT YOU CHEER FOR US, BUT
CAN'T YOU HOLD YOUR VOICE WHEN YOU ARE RECORDING ...


.....
HAHA
SUCH PRESENCE MIGHT BE GOOD ON IT'S OWN
BUT WELL, ALWAYS DOING YOUR BEST LIKE THAT IS ONE OF SHINOMORI'S GOOD POINTS...

I THINK,
.....


I WOULD BE VERY HAPPY
IF I COULD EXPRESS MY FEELINGS FREELY LIKE I DO IN THIS SOCCER CLUB,

I WAS INFLUENCED BY MY BROTHER WHO'S ONE YEAR OLDER.
I LIKED SOCCER SINCE I WAS LITTLE
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, I ENTERED
NI...
NICE TO MEET YOU!!
THE SOCCER CLUB AS THE MANAGER.
SUPPORTING PLAYERS WHO WERE DOING THEIR BEST.
FIGHT!
IT WAS REALLY FUN.
BUT BEFORE TAKING THE HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMS,
MY FATHER TOLD ME
YOU CANNOT JOIN ANY CLUBS AFTER MIDDLE SCHOOL.

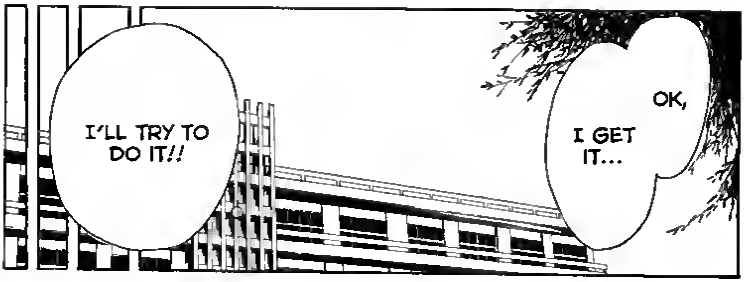
...
EH
WHY...?
GETTING INTO A GOOD UNIVERSITY HAS GREAT INFLUENCE ON YOUR LIFE.
THAT DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH YOU'LL STUDY IN HIGH SCHOOL.
I'M SAYING THIS FOR YOUR GOOD
CHOOSE THE PATH THAT LEADS TO RESULTS.
NOW'S TIME TO BE RESPONSIBLE. EVEN YOUR BROTHER STOPPED AFTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
BUT THAT'S NOT A REAL JOB
IF YOU PLAN EARN A LIVING AS A "FEMALE MANAGER" THEN FINE.
"ELIMINATE POINTLESS PURSUITS. CHOOSE THE PATH THAT LEADS TO RESULTS."
...
SURE
...
I GET IT...
MY FATHER'S MOTTO IS

I COULDN'T OBJECT WITH MY WEAK SPIRIT.
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY WILLPOWER TO ENTER A CLUB IN HIGH SCHOOL.
I DECIDED TO GO TO PUBLIC SCHOOL INTENDING TO ENTER A UNIVERSITY.
BUT THERE JUST IN FRONT OF SCHOOL, I MET A BOY CALLING OUT,
ASKING OTHERS TO JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB.
HE WAS FRESHMAN LIKE ME.
WON'T YOU JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB?
WON'T YOU PLAY SOCCER!?
HE WAS ANDOU SORA-KUN.

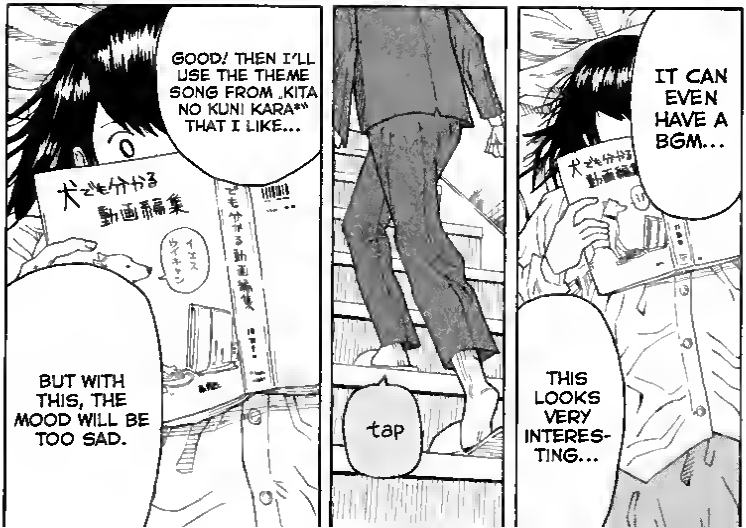
BEFORE I NOTICED,
KE E!
KE E!!
HEY!!
THAT APPEA-RANCE
GA-THERED.
WON'T YOU ENTER!?
OOH
ONLY A COUPLE PEOPLE STRUCK BY HIS PASSION
PULLED ME IN AS WELL
STRONGLY

WHEN I NOTICED, HALF-YEAR ALREADY PASSED.
I... CAN BE MANAGER IF YOU'D LIKE ...
... HMM?
U UHM...
AND I BROKE FATHER'S ORDER.
A MOTIVATIONAL DVD...?
THAT'S WHAT PRO'S DO OFTEN
SO I THOUGHT ABOUT SHOWING THEM THEIR GOOD POINTS.
WELL, IT'S FASTER TO GET THEM INTO THE FIGHTING SPIRIT BY SHOWING THEM A PLAYBOOK.
HEE
THAT'S RIGHT!!
BECAUSE WE HAVE A LOT OF BEGINNERS,
I THINK THAT THEY DON'T HAVE CONFIDENCE AT ALL YET.

SO I THOUGHT ABOUT ASKING YOU, SHINOMORI, TO CREATE THAT DVD...
WHAT DO YOU THINK...?
I'M A DVD MANIAC WHO STARES AT SCENES FOR HOURS.
IS IT STILL FINE?
...
WELL... THAT PROBABLY SHOULD BE ALRIGHT
I BORROWED VIDEO EDITING SOFTWARE FROM THE TEACHER...
I ALSO RESERVED A COMPUTER AND DATA PROCESSING ROOM, SO YOU'LL BE ABLE TO USE LATEST EQUIPMENT.
OF COURSE, I'LL HELP YOU AS MUCH AS I CAN!
THEREFORE I BEG YOU, SHINOMORI
.....
PLEASE!!



*from north country


GOOD! THEN I'LL USE THE THEME SONG FROM „KITA NO KUNI KARA*" THAT I LIKE...
犬でも分かる動画編集
BUT WITH THIS, THE MOOD WILL BE TOO SAD.
tap
IT CAN EVEN HAVE A BGM...
THIS LOOKS VERY INTERES-TING...

!!!!

YOU TOLD ME YOU GO TO THE LIBRARY EVERYDAY
!
EVENING, I HAD WORK NEARBY, SO I CAME BY.
IT'S RARE FOR YOU TO ENTER WITHOUT KNOCKING
THIS
WH-
WHAT IS IT, FATHER

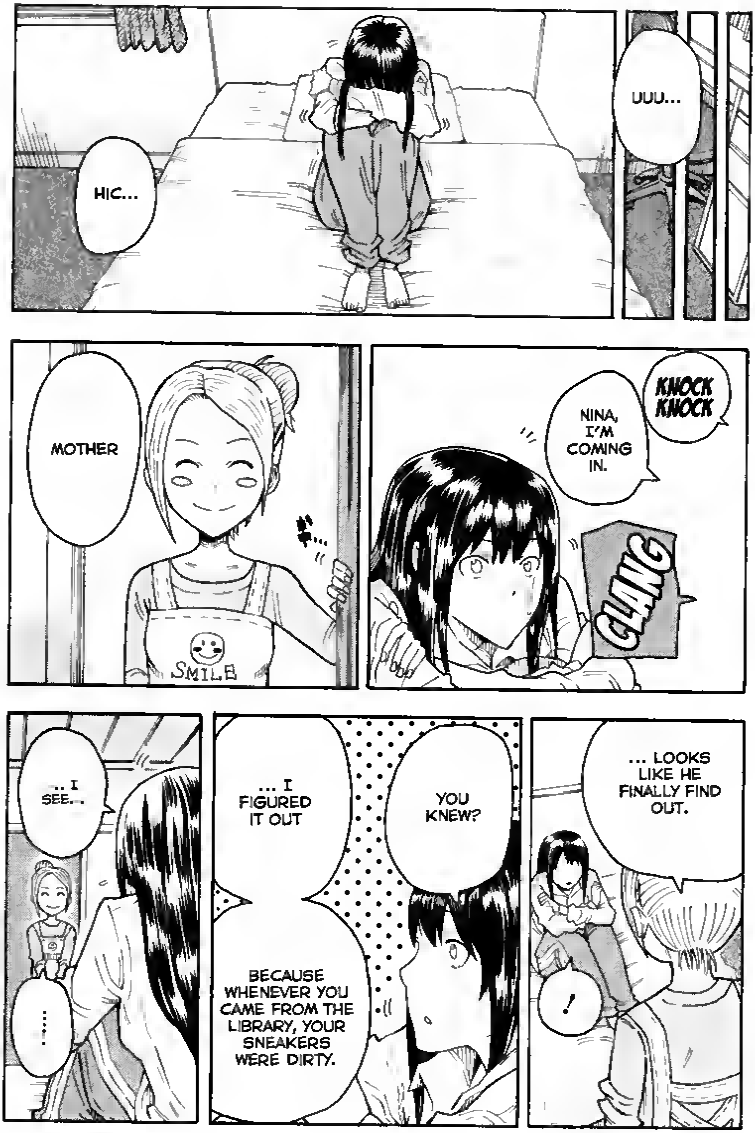
I CALLED YOUR SCHOOL
TO INQUIRE YOUR WHERE-ABOUTS
AH...
I SEARCHED FOR YOU...
YOU WEREN'T ANYWHERE

"NINA-SAN IS MANAGER OF THE SOCCER CLUB."
THE TEACHER ON THE PHONE TOLD ME

DO YOU WANT TO RUIN THE REST OF YOUR LIFE?
AH
GOING AS FAR AS TO LIE TO YOUR PARENTS,

I DON'T WANT TO LISTEN TO YOUR EXCUSES!!
ビク!
I
I'M SORRY.
B-
BUT

I SAID RIGHT AWAY.
AH. .
QUIT RIGHT AWAY.
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOUR FACE.
SLAM
UNTIL THEN


HIC...
UUU...
MOTHER
SMILE
NINA, I'M COMING IN.
KNOCK KNOCK
CLANG
... I SEE...
.....
... I FIGURED IT OUT
BECAUSE WHENEVER YOU CAME FROM THE LIBRARY, YOUR SNEAKERS WERE DIRTY.
YOU KNEW?
... LOOKS LIKE HE FINALLY FIND OUT.
!

....A REASON...?
.....
WHY IS YOUR FATHER SO ANGRY.
... YOU KNOW, NINA,
THERE'S A REASON
THE TRUTH IS...
IN HIGH SCHOOL, YOUR FATHER WAS CAPTAIN OF THE TRACK AND FIELD CLUB
AND I WAS THE MANAGER OF THAT CLUB.
WHEN I SAW HIM LIKE THAT I THOUGHT "IF I COULD BECOME HIS STRENGTH."
ALL OF HIS HIGH SCHOOL LIFE, HE PUT ALL HIS EFFORT IN SUPPORTING THE TEAM.
ESPECIALLY YOUR FATHER, HE WAS TEAM CAPTAIN.
...EH...
YOU BOTH WERE IN CLUBS...?
...THAT'S RIGHT
...BUT
... NO WAY...

DURING THE LAST TOURNAMENT IN HIGH SCHOOL,
YOUR FATHER HAD AN ACCIDENT.
...!
DURING THE RUN, HE BECAME DEHYDRATED.
EVEN THOUGH HE WAS GETTING DIZZY, HE CONTINUED TO RUN,
THE ADVISOR HAD TO STOP HIM BY FORCE.
NONE OF HIS TEAMMATES BLAMED HIM.
.....
BUT THE WOUND IN YOUR FATHER'S HEART REMAINED.
BUT STILL,
YOUR FATHER RECOVERED RIGHT AWAY
BUT AS DEVOTED TO HIS TEAM AS HE WAS, HE COULDN'T STUDY MUCH FOR EXAMS
RIGHT AFTER GRADUATION, HE BECAME A WORKING ADULT.
HE DIDN'T HAVE TIME TO BE DEPRESSED.

. . .BUT, YOU KNOW,
FATHER'S HARD WORK WASN'T REWARDED.
ALL THE MORE, HE WORKED HARD BECAUSE HE PLANNED TO MARRY ME.
YOUR FATHER DEVOTED HIMSELF TO WORK.
THE COMPANY THAT YOUR FATHER ENTERED
TREATED HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES AND UNIVERSITY GRADUATES DIFFERENTLY.
EVEN THOUGH YOUR FATHER WAS GOOD AT WORK, HE GRADUATED FROM HIGH SCHOOL.
THE INITIAL SALARY HE RECEIVED WAS A LOT LESS THAN THAT OF UNIVERSITY GRADUATES ...
IN THE END, HE ENDURED IT FOR 10 YEARS AND THEN CHANGED EMPLOYMENT.
THERE WAS NOTHING THAT WOULD SUIT HIM, SO...
WHEN WE WERE YOUNG, WE WENT THROUGH MANY HARDSHIPS.
YOUR FATHER ALWAYS APOLOGIZED TO ME, "SORRY THAT I CAN'T GIVE YOU A COMFORTABLE LIFE."
...SO YOUR FATHER ...
HAS ALWAYS REGRETTED THAT HE DIDN'T GO TO UNIVERSITY
AND WISHED THAT HE HAD ONLY RUN DURING HIGH SCHOOL.

THAT'S WHY, AT LEAST,
HE DOESN'T WANT HIS CHILDREN TO TASTE THE SAME HARDSHIPS.
THAT'S
THE REASON WHY YOUR FATHER THINKS CLUB ACTIVITIES ARE POINTLESS.
.....
...SO...
THAT'S HOW IT IS--?
...SO
YOUR FATHER'S ANGRY JUST BECAUSE HE WORRIES ABOUT YOU.
CLANG
I WANT YOU TO UNDERSTAND THAT MUCH.
BUT, YOU KNOW,
NINA,

THE ONE WHO ULTIMATELY DECIDES
IS YOU.

CHOOSE THE PATH THAT YOU WANT TO FOLLOW YOURSELF.

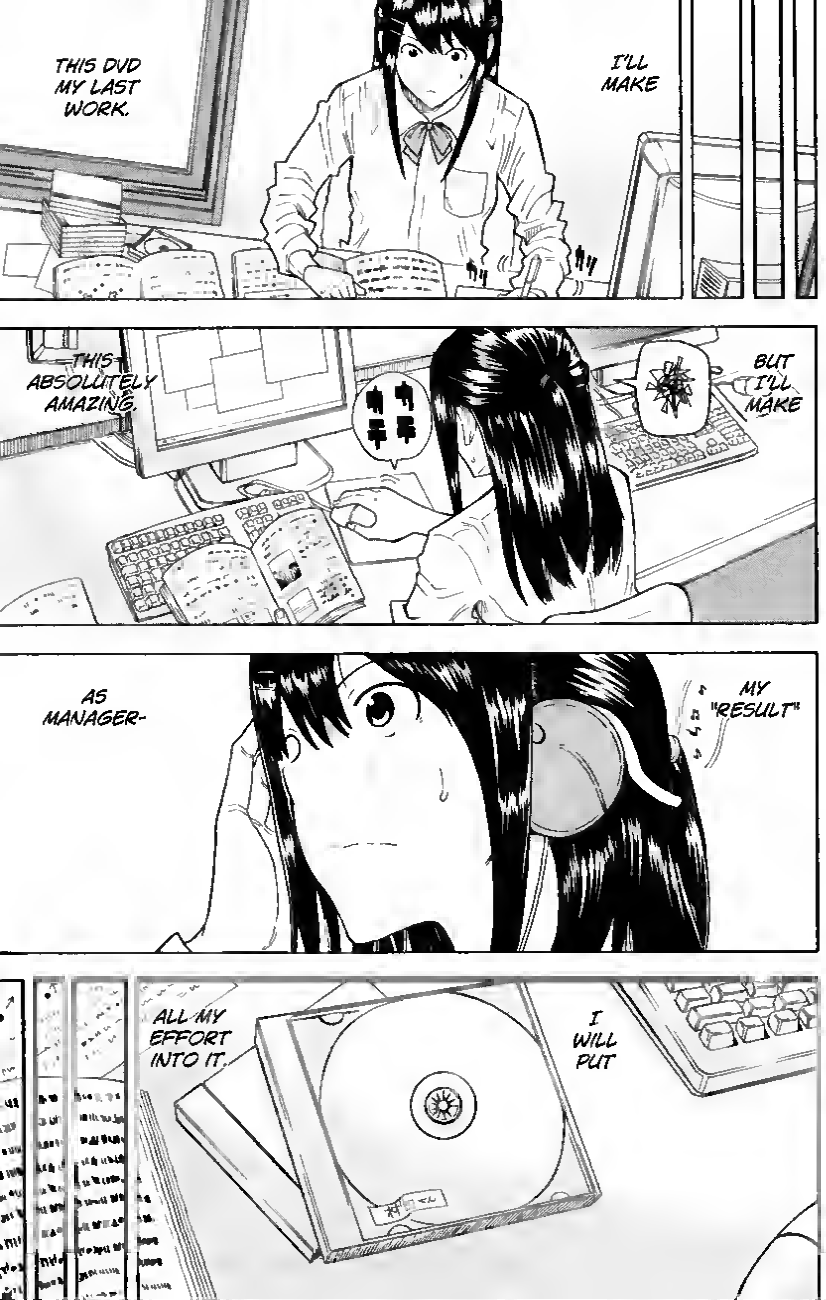
ONE OF THE REGULARS GOT MAD AT ME.
WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL,
.....

"ANYWAYS, YOU'LL GET DIRTY THIS WAY. THERE ARE OTHER THINGS TO DO, RIGHT!?"
"THAT'S ENOUGH. YOU DON'T NEED TO BE OVERLY POLITE ALL THE TIME!!"

"INTO SUCH POINTLESS THINGS!!"
"DON'T PUT YOUR STRENGTH"

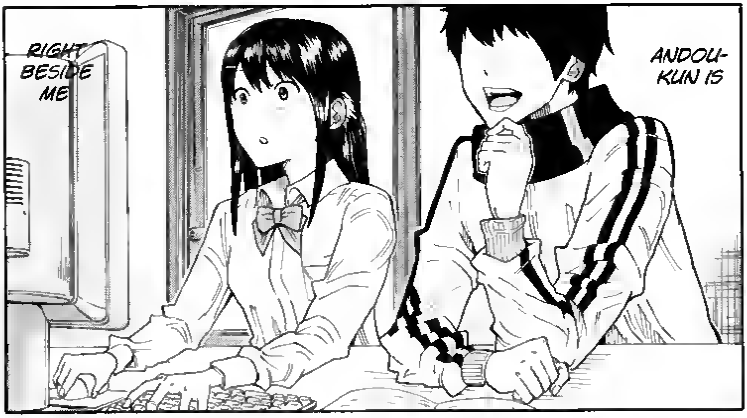
I WILL QUIT.

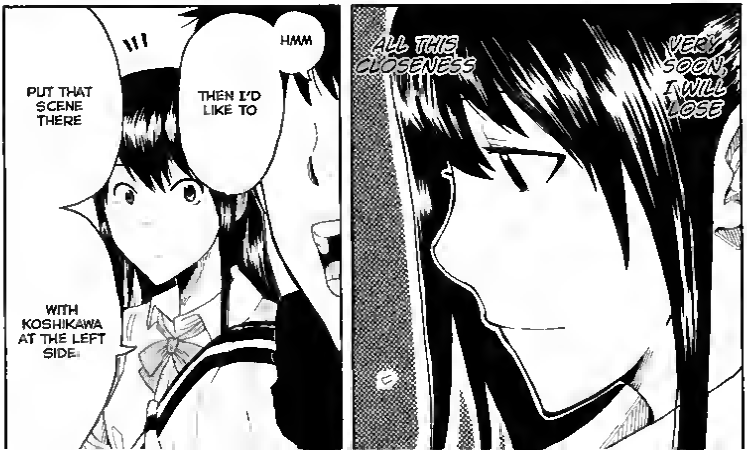
WHAT FATHER SAYS IS RIGHT.
SURELY

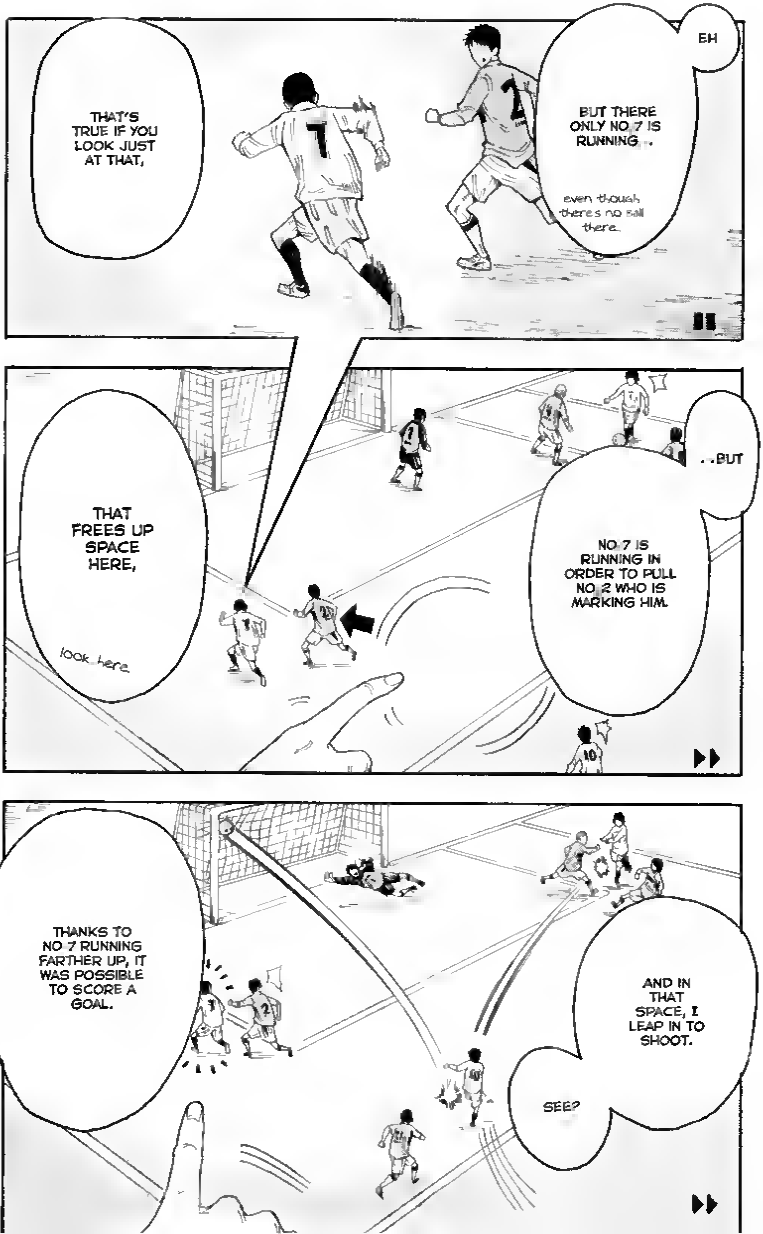

THIS DVD MY LAST WORK.
I'LL MAKE
THIS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING.
BUT I'LL MAKE
AS MANAGER-
MY "RESULT"
ALL MY EFFORT INTO IT.
I WILL PUT

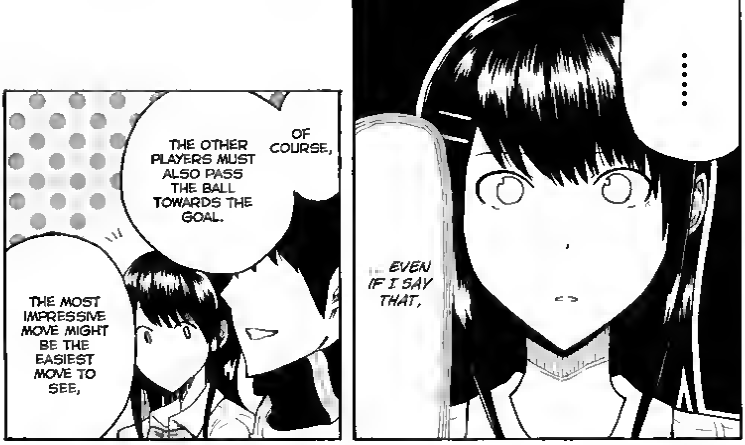
UM...
AH..
ANDOU-KUN
IS THERE SOMETHING TROUBLING YOU..?
...OH
WHAT IS IT, SHINOMORI?
CLANG
HMM..
I SEE..
WELL...
THERE AREN'T MANY PLAYERS WHO GOAL OR ASSIST.
CLICK CLICK
I THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT SCENES TO CHOOSE...
GOOD!
THEN I'LL HELP YOU A LITTLE.
...EH

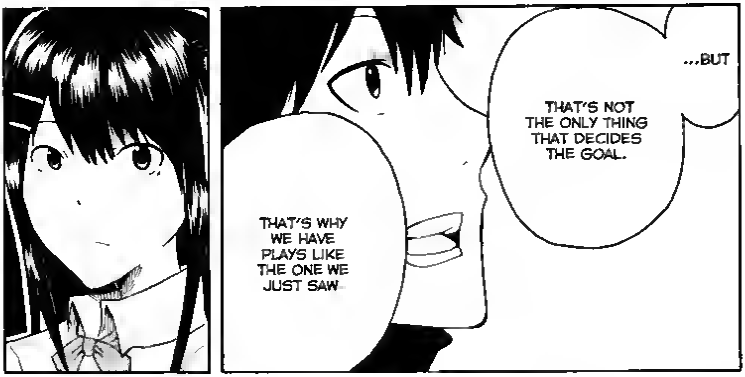
LET'S SEE...
YOSHIDA
SNATCHED THIS BALL WITH A HEAD AND CLEANED IT.
THEN...

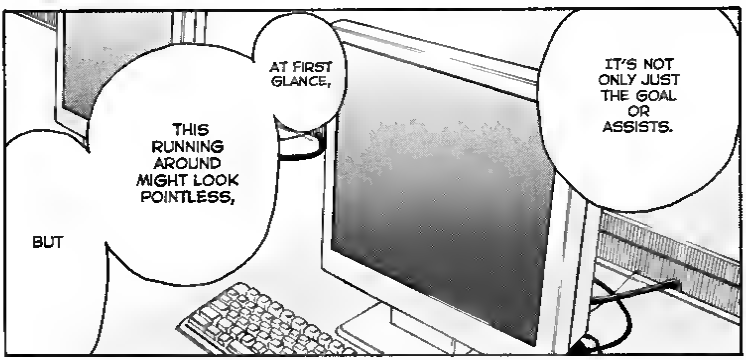

RIGHT BESIDE ME
ANDOU-KUN IS


!!!
HMM
PUT THAT SCENE THERE
THEN I'D LIKE TO
WITH KOSHIKAWA AT THE LEFT SIDE.
ALL THIS CLOSENESS
VERY SOON, I WILL LOSE


THAT'S TRUE IF YOU LOOK JUST AT THAT,
EH
BUT THERE ONLY NO. 7 IS RUNNING . .
even though there's no ball there.
THAT FREES UP SPACE HERE,
look here
. . BUT
NO. 7 IS RUNNING IN ORDER TO PULL NO. 2 WHO IS MARKING HIM.
THANKS TO NO. 7 RUNNING FARTHER UP, IT WAS POSSIBLE TO SCORE A GOAL.
AND IN THAT SPACE, I LEAP IN TO SHOOT.
SEE?


OF COURSE,
THE OTHER PLAYERS MUST ALSO PASS THE BALL TOWARDS THE GOAL.
THE MOST IMPRESSIVE MOVE MIGHT BE THE EASIEST MOVE TO SEE,
... EVEN IF I SAY THAT,
.....


...BUT
THAT'S NOT THE ONLY THING THAT DECIDES THE GOAL.
THAT'S WHY WE HAVE PLAYS LIKE THE ONE WE JUST SAW


AT FIRST GLANCE,
THIS RUNNING AROUND MIGHT LOOK POINTLESS,
BUT
IT'S NOT ONLY JUST THE GOAL OR ASSISTS.

BUT
WHEN SEEMINGLY POINTLESS THINGS ARE DONE WITH EARNEST EFFORT
SURELY SOCCER BECOMES FUN
SHINOMORI—. AND THIS,
……

IT'S UNFAIR THAT ONLY SHINOMORI'S AREN'T THERE...
PEEP
I USED PICTURES THAT THE TEACHERS AND GUARDIANS TOOK.
... I SECRETLY MADE IT
BECAUSE EVEN SHINOMORI
MANAGER (1ST YEAR)
SHINOMORI NINA
PLAYS AN IMPORTANT ROLE IN OUR WIN.
PLAYBOOK!!

FATHER
IS PROBABLY RIGHT.
Fight!!!
Go over there
Aagh so close
Good
WHISTLE
One more set
Here everyone
I know it's hard, but
do your best until the very end!!

I WANT TO PUT EVERYTHING I HAVE INTO THIS.
FATHER ...
BUT STILL
NOW
PL...
PLEASE ALLOW ME TO BE...
IT MIGHT BE POINT-LESS
MANAGER OF THE SOCCER CLUB.

TO ME,
WHA-..
FATHER'S HIGH SCHOOL LIFE DOESN'T LOOK POINTLESS.
BECAUSE AS CAPTAIN,
YOU DESPERATELY DID YOUR BEST FOR OF TEAM, DIDN'T YOU...?
.....
AND THANKS TO THAT,
YOU'VE BEEN DESPERATELY THINKING THE BEST FOR ME.
ISN'T THAT WHY YOU ARE HERE NOW...?

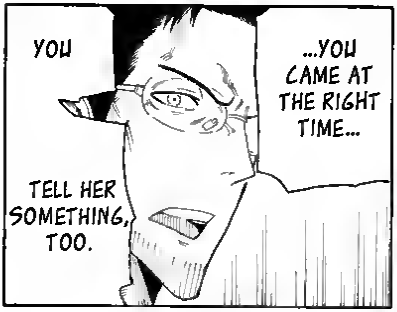
THE MANAGER CAN'T MAKE GOALS OR ASSISTS-
CAN'T DO ANYTHING TO MAKE RESULTS.
.....

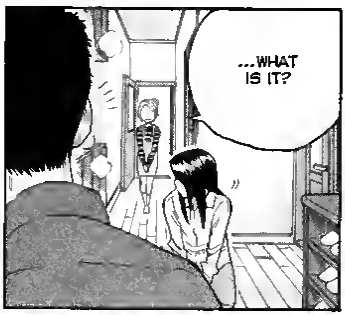
THAT CERTAINLY AREN'T POINTLESS.
...BUT STILL, THERE SURELY ARE THINGS I CAN DO FOR THE TEAM

...SO PLEASE, FATHER...

LET ME CONTINUE
AS MANAGER...
I
.....
...BE QUIET!!!
YOU
DON'T UNDERSTAND A THING...!!!

YOU'RE STILL YOUNG-
YOU'RE BLINDED BY YOUR EMOTIONS
YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND HOW MUCH TROUBLE YOU WILL HAVE IN THE FUTURE!!

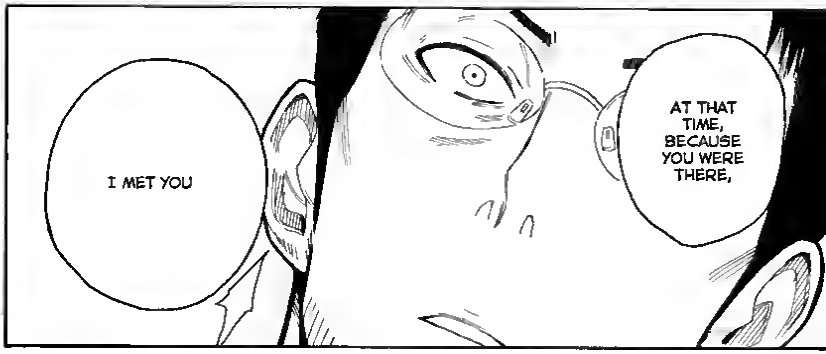

...YOU CAME AT THE RIGHT TIME...
YOU
TELL HER SOMETHING, TOO.

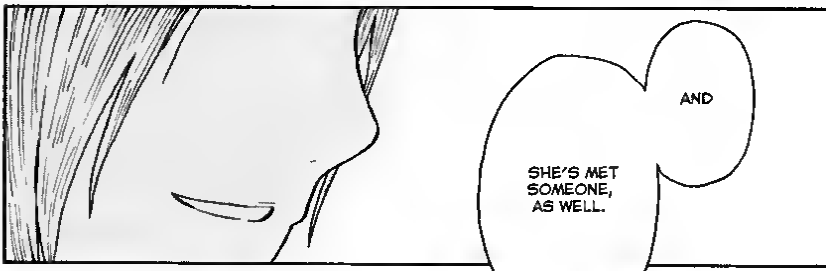

...WHAT IS IT?

YOU HAVE PAINFUL MEMORIES AS WELL...
YOU'VE DEFINITELY REGRETTED MANY TIMES THAT ALL I DID IN HIGH SCHOOL WAS RUN!!

THAT'S NOT TRUE.
LOVE!

...BECAUSE... ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
WHA...


I MET YOU
AT THAT TIME, BECAUSE YOU WERE THERE,

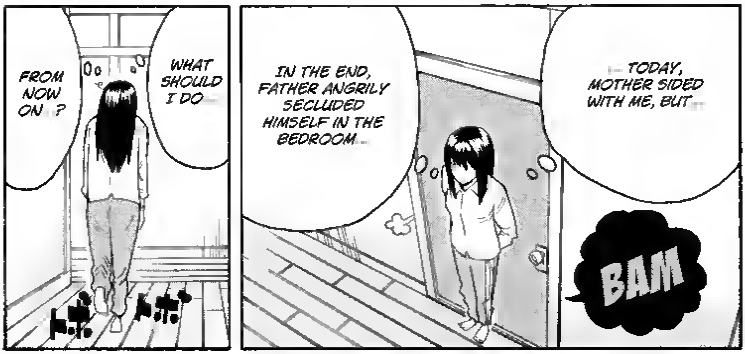

AND
SHE'S MET SOMEONE, AS WELL.

.....

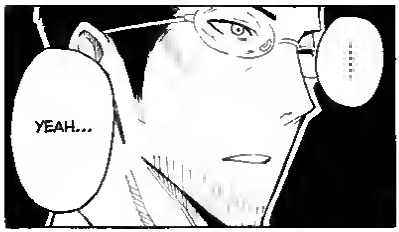
KEPT WATCHING YOU DESPE-RATELY DOING YOUR BEST
IN HIGH SCHOOL.
.....
LOVE!
THEREFORE
I...

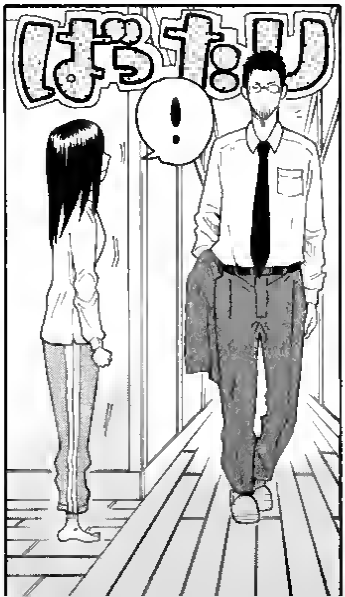
I HAVE NEVER
REGRETTED IT...

SIGH...


FROM NOW ON ?
WHAT SHOULD I DO
IN THE END, FATHER ANGRILY SECLUDED HIMSELF IN THE BEDROOM
TODAY, MOTHER SIDED WITH ME, BUT
BAM

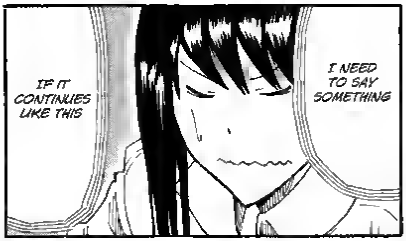
GOOD MORNING ...
G...

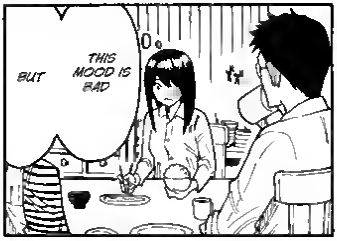

YEAH...


ばっと!!
!

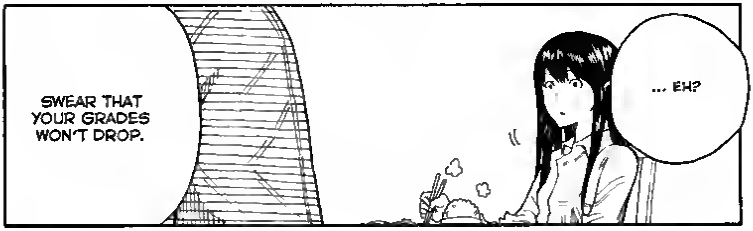
……
もく
もく
黙々

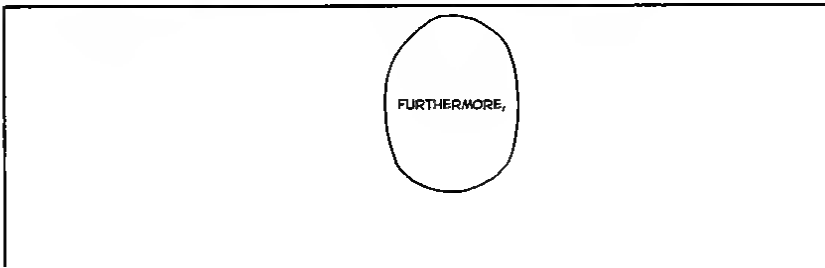
(silence)


IF IT CONTINUES LIKE THIS
I NEED TO SAY SOMETHING


BUT
THIS MOOD IS BAD

…MAKE IT WORK OUT WITH YOUR STUDYING.


SWEAR THAT YOUR GRADES WON'T DROP.
… EH?


FURTHERMORE,

AS MANAGER,
NEVER FORGET YOUR PROMISE.
.....
YES...!!

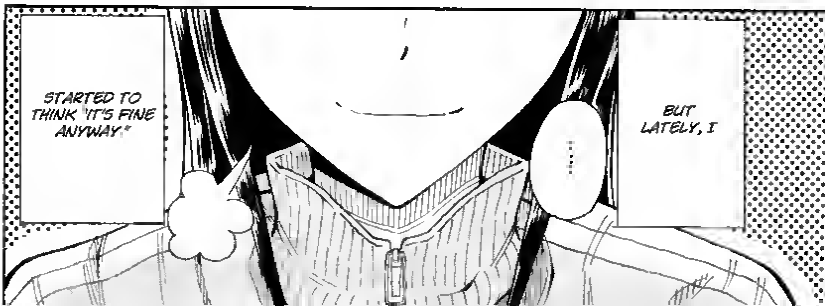
LIKE SOCCER
MANAGER!!
I...
Me too!!
I WAS ABOUT TO CRY.
I'LL TREASURE IT ALL MY LIFE!!
ME TOO!!
I'M TOUCHED !!
THE DVD IS AWESOME!
わしわし
わしわし
I LIKE THIS FLEDGLING SOCCER CLUB
... THANKS
e he he
EVERYONE'S TRYING TO GET BETTER
SHINOMORI!!
AND

AND LATELY,
.....
ONE THING...
I NOTICED

ANDOU-KUN MIGHT HAVE SOMEONE ELSE HE LIKES
BUT
YEAH !!
PUT YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT INTO IT
ALRIGHT EVERYONE!
THAT

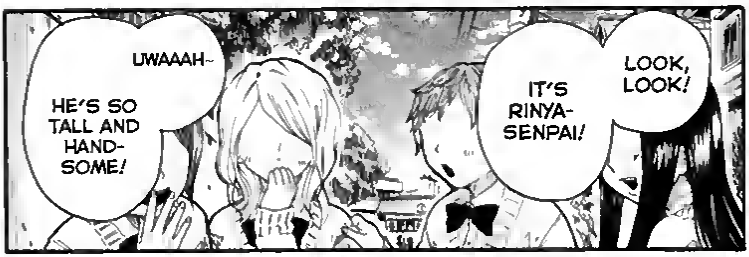
"AAH THIS PERSON HAS SOMEONE IMPORTANT TO HIM ALREADY"
WHEN I LOOK AT HIS PROFILE I THINK
BUT

IT'S ONLY MY INTUI-TION
THERE IS NO BASIS FOR IT


STARTED TO THINK "IT'S FINE ANYWAY."
BUT LATELY, I

I DON'T KNOW IF I WILL REACH THE GOAL I WISH FOR
BUT
I EMBRACE THESE FEELINGS I HAVE
YEAH!!
THEN NEXT HOW ABOUT A MINI GAME OVER THERE?
GOOD!!
CERTAINLY
...OK...!! THEN WE'LL GO WITH 1 SET!
READY
WHISTLE
THEY AREN'T POINTLESS...

PEOPLE LIKE BECKHAM OR RYOU-KUN.
THOUGH AS HANDSOME AS THEY ARE, THEY CLIMBED UP TO BE THE WORLD'S TOP ATHLETES. I THINK THAT'S AMAZING


UWAAAH~
HE'S SO TALL AND HANDSOME!
LOOK, LOOK!
IT'S RINYA-SENPAI!

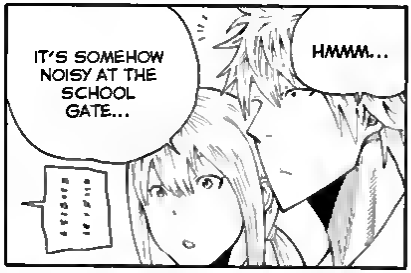
... BECAUSE
HANDSOME GUYS HAVE MANY DIVERSE TEMPTATIONS

RATHER, THEIR WHOLE GROUP IS HANDSOME.
THERE REALLY DO EXIST COUPLES OF GOOD-LOOKING PEOPLE
RINYA-SENPAI'S GIRLFRIEND, AIRI-SAN IS VERY CUTE TOO!!

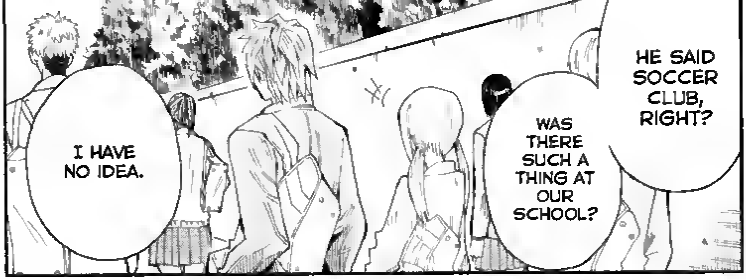
No.3 Koshikawa Rinya

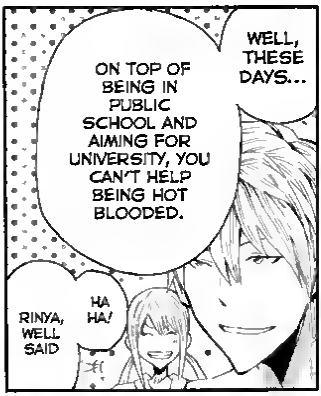
THAT WAS REALLY GREAT.
AND THEN...

WHAT'S THAT...
...OH


IT'S SOMEHOW NOISY AT THE SCHOOL GATE...
HMMM...

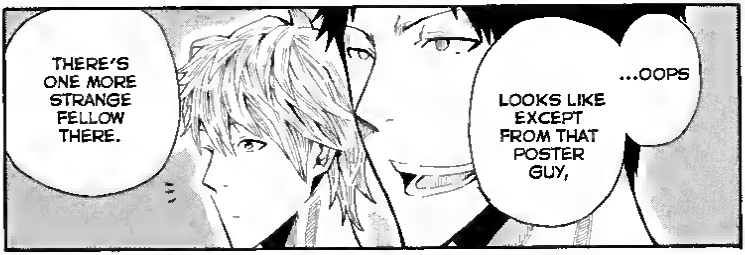
WILL YOU ENTER...
WILL YOU ENTER THE SOCCER CLUB?
AN INVITATION...?


HE SAID SOCCER CLUB, RIGHT?
WAS THERE SUCH A THING AT OUR SCHOOL?
I HAVE NO IDEA.

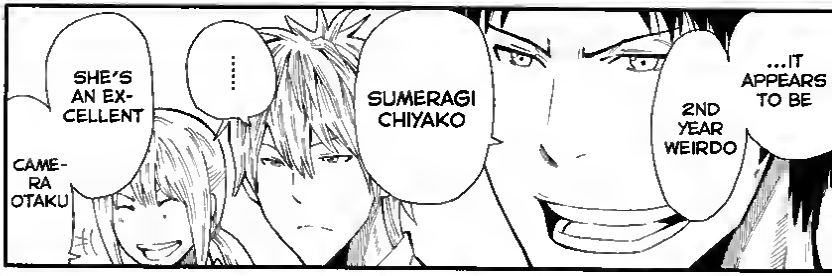

WELL, THESE DAYS...
ON TOP OF BEING IN PUBLIC SCHOOL AND AIMING FOR UNIVERSITY, YOU CAN'T HELP BEING HOT BLOODED.
HA HA!
RINYA, WELL SAID

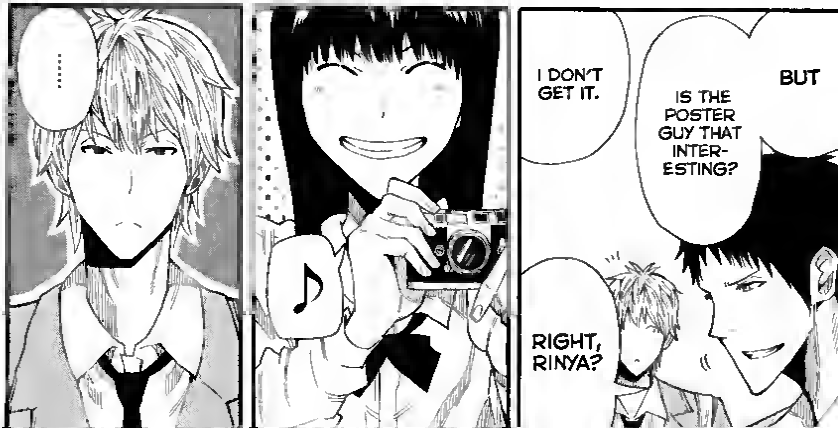
... BUT STILL HE'S BEEN AT IT SINCE THIS MORNING
HE'S YOUNG
ISN'T HE COOL?
AHAHA
Will you enter the soccer club?

HMMM?


THERE'S ONE MORE STRANGE FELLOW THERE.
...OOPS
LOOKS LIKE EXCEPT FROM THAT POSTER GUY,

CLICK
GOOD, JUST LIKE THAT! ♪
WOW~


SHE'S AN EX-CELLENT CAME-RA OTAKU
.....
SUMERAGI CHIYAKO
2ND YEAR WEIRDO
...IT APPEARS TO BE


.....
♪
I DON'T GET IT.
BUT IS THE POSTER GUY THAT INTER-ESTING?
RIGHT, RINYA?

AND LIKE THIS
YEAH.
WAIT UP, RINYA!
LET'S GO, AIRI.
...I DON'T KNOW
AND I'M NOT INTERESTED.
THAT EVERY-ONE ENVIES
THE BRIL-LIANT EVERY-DAYS
WITHOUT ANY INCONVE-NIENCE,
TODAY START ED
AT LEAST I THOUGHT SO.
.....
BEING HANDSOME HAS AN AMAZING EFFECT.
...REALLY.

DURING MIDDLE SCHOOL
I DIDN'T LOOK ANYTHING LIKE I DO NOW.
TO TOP IT OFF, I HAD CLOSE-CROPPED HAIR BECAUSE I WAS IN THE BASEBALL CLUB
ちんちん
PEOPLE SAID I WAS CUTE, BUT NOT IN A ROMANTIC WAY.
EVEN SOMEONE LIKE ME
HAD A GIRL I WAS INTERESTED IN
THAT WAS
CLICK
SUMERAGI CHIYAKO
COW-ABUNGA! ♪

WAS VERY RE-FRESHING
NOT BEING BOTHERED BY HER SURROUND-INGS
... SHE'S WEIRD SOMEHOW.
SHE WAS ALWAYS OBSESSED WITH HER CAMERA
THOUGH MY CLASS-MATES THOUGHT OF HER AS A WEIRDO,
whisper
whisper
I RESOLUTELY CAME TO TALK TO HER.
WHAT ARE YOU TAKING PICS OF...?
...SAY,
ONE DAY,
I CAN SEE A SPARK-LING LIGHT.
THE MOMENT WHEN TREES OR WHAT-EVER ELSE ARE TRYING THEIR BEST TO LIVE.
LIKE FOR EX AMPLE.
TO THAT,
SHE STARTED TALKING VERY HAPPILY.
...THAT'S WHY, I
USE THIS SUPER MACHINE CALLED CAMERA
HEHH ...
THE THING CALLED AURA, MAYBE?
THAT THING IN DRAGON BALL
SPARK-LING...?

TO CAPTURE THAT
SPARK-LING MOMENT
FOR ETERNITY

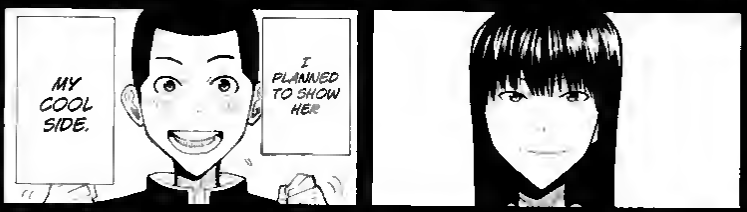
I JUST
THOUGHT
THAT MAYBE

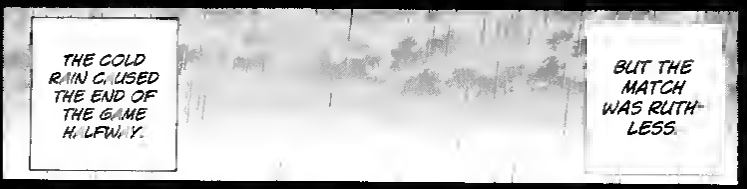
TO BE FRANK,
I DIDN'T UNDER-STAND A THING OF WHAT SHE WAS SAYING

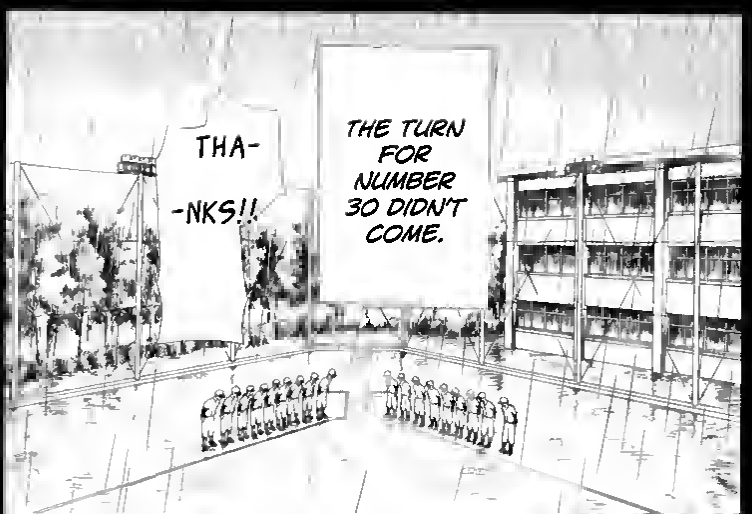
SHE WAS SPARK-LING.
WHEN SHE TALKED ABOUT PHOTOS

I SERIOUSLY
FELL FOR HER.
DURING FALL OF 3RD YEAR
I HEARD SHE WAS GOING TO PUBLIC SCHOOL AND WAS AIMING FOR UNIVERSITY. SO
I DID MY BEST AT STUDYING.
WHEN I BARELY MADE THE CUT,
I WAS SO HAPPY, I COULD DIE.
AND BEFORE GRADUATION AT SCHOOL
IN THE RETIRING MATCH OF THE BASE BALL CLUB.
THE MIDDLE SCHOOL BASEBALL CLUB OF 30 SENIORS.
I WAS THE ONE WHO SUCKED THE WORST. BUT.
THE COACH SAID IN THAT MATCH "I'LL USE EVERY-ONE."
MY FIRST NUMBER WAS "30"
30
TOO HIGH A NUMBER. BUT IT MADE ME HAPPY.
PF note: He didn't get to be in a match 'til then. That's why it was his first number.

I ASKED HER TO COME AND WATCH THE MATCH.
AND WITH DO-OR-DIE SPIRITS.
MY BODY GREW SOFT DURING EXAMINATIONS AS I DIDN'T STICK WITH PRACTICE.


MY COOL SIDE.
I PLANNED TO SHOW HER


THE COLD RAIN CAUSED THE END OF THE GAME HALFWAY.
BUT THE MATCH WAS RUTHLESS.


THA-
-NKS!!
THE TURN FOR NUMBER 30 DIDN'T COME.

WHEN I APOLOGIZED,
SHE LOOKED TROUBLED.
... SORRY.
VEXED, EMBARRASED, I
REMAINED ALONE AT THE FIELD
SWINGING RESTLESSLY.
IF I HAD JUST WORKED A LITTLE HARDER
IT WOULDN'T HAVE ENDED THIS WAY.
LOOKING BACK, I STARTED TO STUDY MORE
ONLY AFTER I FOUND OUT WHERE SHE WAS GOING FOR HIGH SCHOOL...
WHY DIDN'T I START TO STUDY DESPERATELY EALIER?
.. THE WHOLE OF MY MIDDLE SCHOOL YEARS I WORKED HARD.
I DID BOTH CLUB ACTIVITIES AND STUDIES WITH ALL MY STRENGTH

MY BODY STARTED TO CHANGE AS WELL.

I GREW RAPIDLY
AND MY ACNE VANISHED
EVEN MY FACE CHANGED TO THAT OF AN ADULT.
UM... KOSHIKAWA-KUN
WITH THAT
THE WAY OTHERS LOOKED AT ME CHANGED AS WELL
YOU GREW OUT OF YOUR UNIFORM AGAIN.
I'M LEAVING.
Woman cutting his hair
IT FELT LIKE MY GROWTH PERIOD.
THAT TOOK SO LONG TO COME CAME SUDDENLY

ERM...
PLEASE GO OUT WITH ME!
NOT JUST THE GIRLS
.....
I COULDN'T HAVE IMAGINED THAT AT MIDDLE SCHOOL.
THE GROUP OF POPULAR
RINYA-KUN, TELL ME YOUR MAIL ADDRESS.
RINYA-KUN, NEXT TIME LET'S...
WOULD BECOME FRIENDS WITH ME.
HEE YOU DYED YOUR HAIR.
IT WAS LIKE SOMETHING OUT OF A DREAM.

WAS FUN, LIKE IT WAS UNREAL.
EVERY-DAY
I STARTED NOT TO CARE ABOUT THE FEELINGS OF THAT DAY
THEREFORE, SOMEWHERE DOWN THE ROAD,
THAT'S WHAT'S GREAT ABOUT BEING YOUNG.
CARE-LESSLY CHAT-TING
STUDYING CARE-LESSLY WITH FRIENDS.
BECAUSE IT COULDN'T BE HELPED, RIGHT?
I'M FINE WITH THAT.
THERE-FORE
I AM HAVING FUN EVERY-DAY WITHOUT WORKING HARD.

LIKE THIS
IT'S FINE

ALL OF THEM
...SO

SOME-TIMES IT'S GOOD TO BE ALONE.
... WELL,

ARE DOING DETEN-TION.
AIRI AND THE OTHERS TOO
I'M THE ONLY ONE GOING HOME...

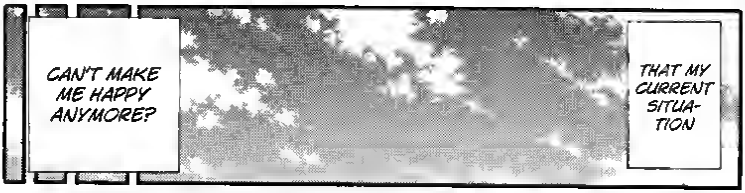
HMM...

WAAH~
THOSE ARE INTERESTING CLOUDS.
CLICK
GOOD, THAT'S IT!
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SHOULD I GO THE OTHER WAY? OR IGNORE HER...?
CLICK
CLICK
...HMMM
WAIT...
... SINCE THAT RETIREMENT MATCH, I FELT AWKWARD
SO I AVOIDED SITUATIONS WHEN WE WOULD BE ALONE.
.....
SUMERAGI...!!!
OF ALL PEOPLE...

WHEN I THINK IT OVER, NOW I'M
DIFFER-ENT FROM THAT TIME...
THAT'S RIGHT, NOW
NOW THAT I LOOK AT YOU,
YOU MATCH PERFECTLY THE IMAGE OF THE MODEL I'M SEARCHING FOR!!
SHE MIGHT SAY SOME-THING LIKE THAT!!?
.....
... GOOD!
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...
... GOOD...!! GIVE THE KILLER SMILE WHEN SHE TURNS OVER HERE!
YOU KNOW...
... DO IT NONCHA-LANTLY, COM-PLETELY NATURAL.
.....
WHO ARE YOU?
EH?
...
... PRETTY BOY ... SORRY, BUT

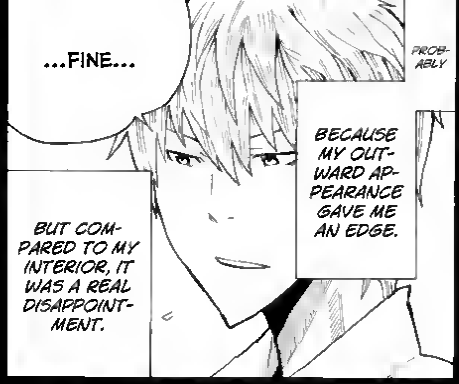
I DON'T KNOW
SOME-ONE LIKE YOU.
... AAH, IS THAT SO?
... SEE YOU! ...
.....
.....
DAMN.

... AS I THOUGHT.
IT WAS NO GOOD...
... WHEN DID IT START, I WONDER,


CAN'T MAKE ME HAPPY ANYMORE?
THAT MY CURRENT SITUA-TION

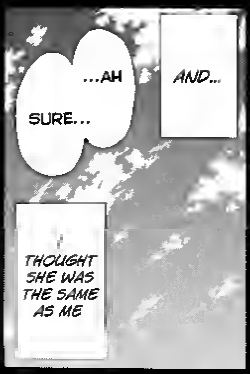
you're so hand-some!
Senpai,
you're reall popula
Looks like
Rinja-kun's so cool!
WITH ALL OF THEM...
... WHAT IS IT...

AREN'T THERE ANY OTHER COOL SIDES OF ME?
WHEN I THINK OF IT, SURELY FROM THE START
NOT MY REFLEXES NOR MY BRAIN WERE THAT GREAT
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL I SUCKED AT BASEBALL THE MOST
AT STUDIES, I WAS AT A LEVEL TO ONLY BARELY MAKE THE CUT
I DIDN'T HAVE ANY INTERESTS
HAVING NO ADVAN-TAGES EXCEPT FOR MY GOOD LOOKS
I FEEL LIKE I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING
ALWAYS GOING THE EASY WAY


...FINE...
PROBABLY
BECAUSE MY OUTWARD APPEARANCE GAVE ME AN EDGE.
BUT COMPARED TO MY INTERIOR, IT WAS A REAL DISAPPOINTMENT.

LET'S BREAK UP...
TO POINT THAT OUT
I DIDN'T DATE WOMEN FOR LONG

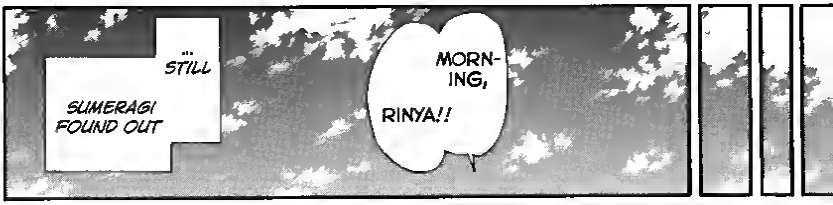
AIRI WAS ONE OF THEM.
DON'T YOU THINK
WE SUIT EACH OTHER?
HEY,
BUT
THERE WAS SOMEONE WHO SAID THAT "THAT EDGE" WAS ENOUGH.


...AH
SURE...
AND...
THOUGHT SHE WAS THE SAME AS ME

BUT
THAT WAS ALL.

SHALL WE DATE?
AIRI'S PREEMINENCE IS CUTE

SHE'S CUTE AND DON'T GET ME WRONG
THANKS!
AIRI-SENPAI IS ALWAYS SO CUTE!!
WAAH!
THE ONLY ONE DIFFERENT FROM THEM WAS AIRI
THAT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE SHE WAS POPULAR SINCE SHE WAS BORN
I'm so happy
I JUST SUDDENLY GOT TO THAT STAGE
.....
SO I DON'T REALLY GET IT.
WHAT MORE IS THERE TO WISH FOR?
.....
WHATEVER, ISN'T IT FINE LIKE THAT?
...BUT
I PLANNED TO SPEND EVERYDAY BEING ENVIED BY ALL
LET ME TELL YOU

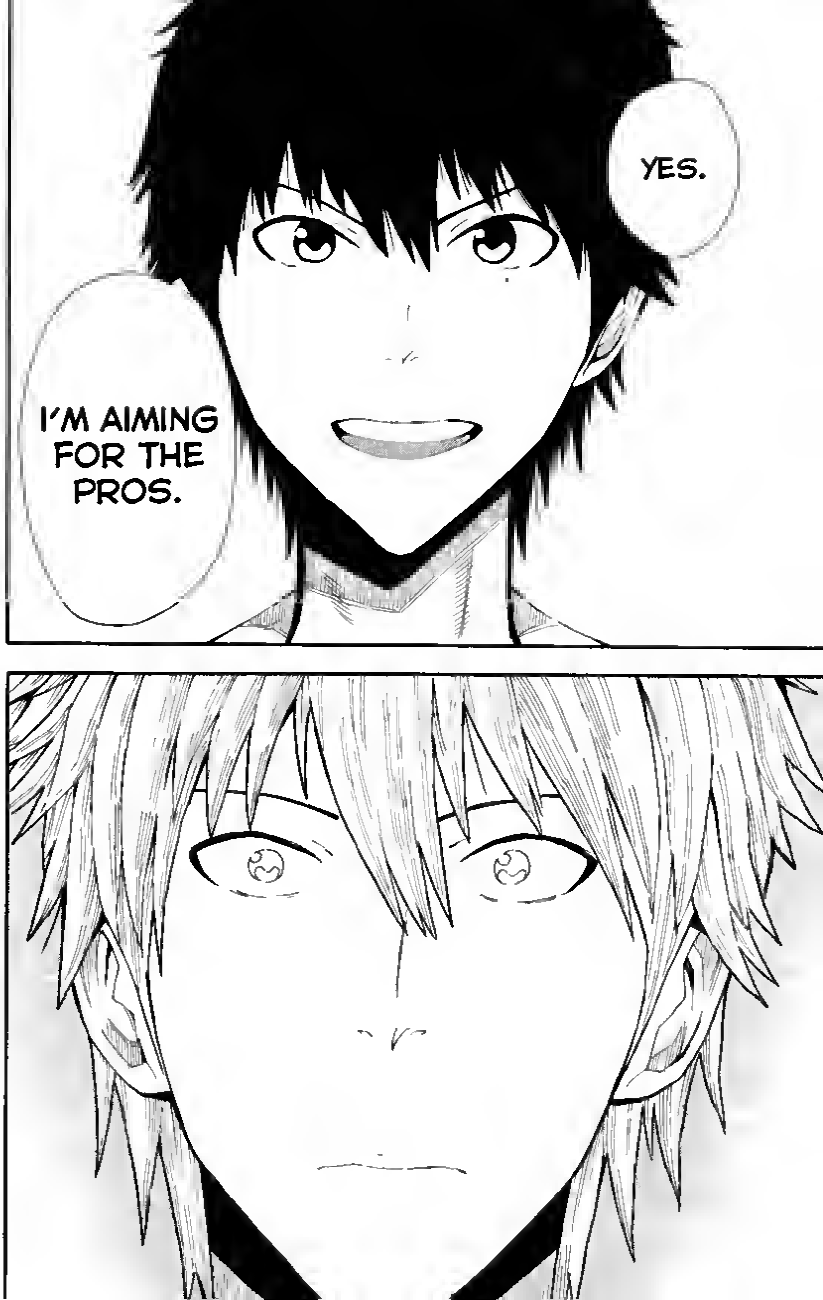

MORN-
ING,
RINYA!!
... STILL
SUMERAGI FOUND OUT

I DIDN'T UNDER-
STAND IT, EITHER.
HEY, WAIT!!
AH!
BUT THE TRUTH IS..

.....
THAT MY IN-
TERIOR IS
EMPTY.
... HUH? WHAT'S WITH THAT SHIFTY GOOD MOOD?
SINCE THAT DAY AT THE RETIREMENT MATCH, I WAS IN DE-
SPAIR.

TRUTH-
FULLY,
EVEN I
WILL
YOU
JOIN?
WILL YOU JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB?
BE-
CAUSE

HMPH.
SOCCER CLUB, HUH?
AM DISAPPOINTED IN MYSELF.
STOP THAT, RINYA...!!
WA... WAIT...
!!
EVERYDAY, DAY BY DAY, HOW ADMIRABLE.
... YOU EYESORE.
PERHAPS YOU ARE AIMING TO BECOME A PRO?
DO YOU HAVE SOME SPLENDID DREAM OR OBJECTIVE?
... STILL GOING THAT FAR JUST TO CREATE A SOCCER CLUB
HURRY UP AND NOTICE IT.
EVERYONE'S LAUGHING AT YOU.
... I'LL LET YOU TASTE DESPAIR TOO.

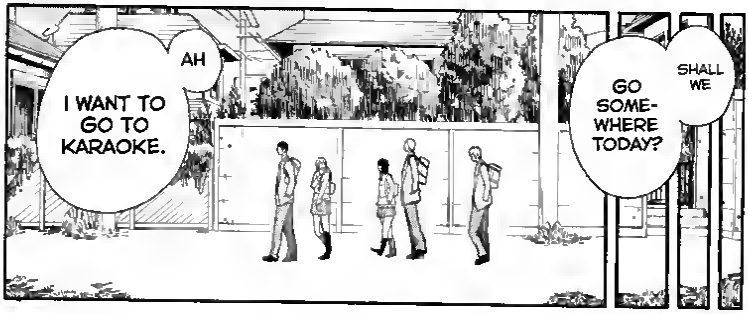

YES.
I'M AIMING FOR THE PROS.

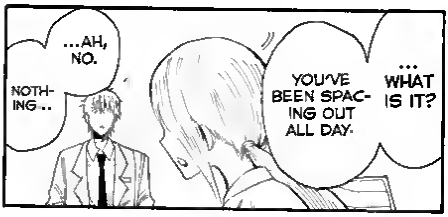
.....
PRO, PRO, AMAZ-ING!!
IS THAT FOR REAL!!?
I WANT TO BECOME BETTER AT SOCCER WITH DIF-FERENT PEOPLE.
" THIS FEELING..
I WANT TO PLAY SOCCER WITH VARIOUS PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.
THEN GOING OVER-SEAS,
... AND LATER BE ACTIVE IN JAPAN,
I WANT TO WIN A CHAM-PION-SHIP.
SOME-WHERE...
PARTICI-PATE IN THE CHAMPI-ONS LEAGUE.
I WANT TO RISE TO THE HIGHEST LEVEL,
AND ONE DAY

I WANT TO BECOME 1/11 OF
THE WORLD'S BEST TEAM!
!!
……
……

1/11!!?
SUCH A COOL WAY OF TALKING!!
A CHAMPIONSHIP
THAT'S REALLY HILARIOUS!!
.....
...THAT'S ENOUGH
HUH...?
LET'S GO.
WAI
WAIT A LITTLE, RINYA!!
AND LEAVE OUR PREY ALONE?
.....
WHY WAS SLIMERAGI
NOW
I UNDERSTAND IT
TAKING PHOTOS OF
THAT SOCCER CLUB MEMBER?

SPARK-
LING
LIGHTLY.
... IT'S
BECAUSE
HE'S DIF-
FERENT
THAN ME


AH
I WANT TO
GO TO
KARAOKE.
SHALL
WE
GO
SOME-
WHERE
TODAY?


...AH,
NO.
NOTH-
ING..
YOU'VE
BEEN SPAC-
ING OUT
ALL DAY.
...
WHAT
IS IT?

.....

LOOK AT
THAT!!
HEY!!

FLAPPING WINGS HIGH~
FLYING IN THE SKY~ ♪
CLICK
CLICK
THE WEIRDO APPEARED AGAIN.
IT'S A WONDER THAT SHE DOESN'T GET TIRED OF THAT
.....
.....
WHER-EVER IN THE WIDE SKY~ ♪
LET'S GO, RINYA.
AT THE SCHOOL GATE SHE WAS LIKE THAT THE WHOLE TIME. WHAT'S SO FUN ABOUT IT?
.....
.....
... AS I THOUGHT, SHE COM-PLETELY
FORGOT MY FACE...

LOOKS LIKE SUMERAGI'S PHOTOS ARE PRETTY FAMOUS
... THAT'S RIGHT
.....!
.....
IS THAT SO...?
BY THE TIME SHE ENTERED HIGH SCHOOL SHE HAD A PHOTO-GRAPH IN A MAGAZINE.
YEAH,
FOR REAL!?
HERS?
HEY
LOOK AT THAT.
OH
HERE IT IS.
AN OLD FRIEND SENT ME SUMERAGI'S PIC THAT WAS PUBLISHED IN THE MAGA-ZINE.
WAIT A MINUTE ...
BEEP
BEEP
BEEP
I KEPT IT AS JOKE MATERIAL IN MY IMAGE FOLDER...
THE PIC'S TITLE,
IF YOU NOTICE THAT,
IT'S REALLY HILARI-OUS.

どぅ
... PFFT HAHAHA!!!
WHAT'S WITH THAT TITLE!!
LAME ...
CRAP... THAT'S A BOMB... I'LL DIE FROM LAUGH-ING...!!
……
カラカ
……
HEY RINYA, TAKE A LOOK TOO!!
……
SUMERAGI'S OBJECTIVITY IN THE SOCCER CLUB IS NOT ENOUGH!!
LOOK AT THAT, IT'S SO EMBAR-RASSING!!

...
SO NOISY

BE QUIET.

I THOUGHT ABOUT RETURNING...
...
... HUH?
.....
I THOUGHT ABOUT LEAVING RIGHT AWAY...
BECAUSE OF MY DESPAIR...
THAT DAY
IF...
DRIP
DRIP
.....

HEY,
[Sparkle]
Sumeragi Chiyak
IF YOU FORGIVE ME, THEN...
30
IF YOU
SAW ME NOW?
[Sparkle]
Sumeragi Chiyako 115 years ol
金賞
WHAT WOULD YOU THINK

GRANT ME
WH... WHAT HAP-PENED,
RINYA ...
ONE MORE CHANCE, PLEASE.
!?
RIN-
MOR-NING,
GIVE ME
TO BE REBORN.
ONE MORE CHANCE
THAT HEAD...

YOU'VE BEEN ACTING STRANGE SINCE YESTERDAY...
THAT'S RIGHT...
...
WHAT HAPPENED, RINYA...
...WHA
I...
LIKED RINYA'S LIGHT HAIR...
NO...
WAY...
EH...
...THANKS
FOR EVERYTHING UP TIL NOW.
...EH...
...YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND HATE ME.
...THEN,
WAIT UP, RINYA!!
H-
HEY!
EH...? WAI...
.....

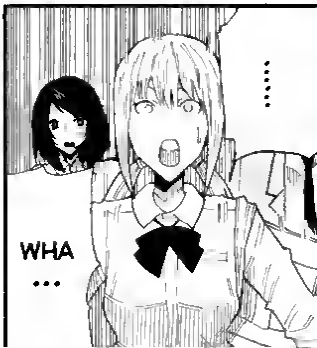
WILL YOU JOIN-
!

WILL YOU?
WILL YOU JOIN THE SOCCER CLUB?

I'M SORRY THAT I TEASED AND MADE FUN OF YOU.
... ABOUT YESTERDAY

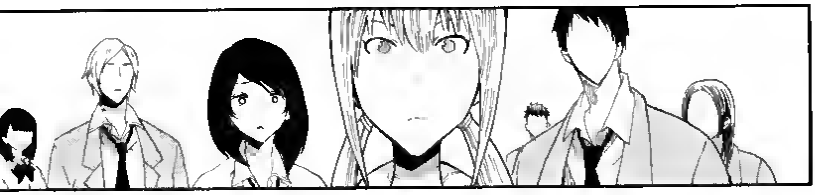
WILL YOU LET ME JOIN THE CLUB?
... I'M ALREADY A 2ND YEAR, BUT

... I... DON'T HAVE ANY GOOD TRAITS...
.....

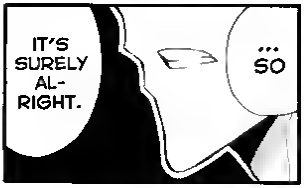

.....
WHA...

I'M NOT THAT GOOD AT SPORTS, BUT...
I'M DONE WITH TEASING... ALREADY...

... I WANT TO CHANGE



.....
I WANT TO CHANGE ...
.....
... IT'S ALRIGHT.



PF note. He's talking about Hiromi Miyake the Japanese weightlifter

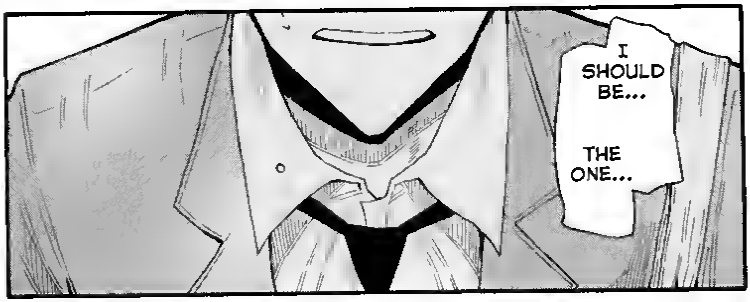
... AND
IT'S A LIE THAT YOU DON'T HAVE EVEN ONE GOOD TRAIT.
... YES-TERDAY
WHEN I WAS TALK-ING ABOUT MY DREAM,
... EH?
... BUT
YOU WERE DIFFER-ENT.
... THAT'S A NORMAL HUMAN REACTION.
MOSTLY ALL THE PEOPLE THAT HEARD IT LAUGHED AT ME.
SERIOUSLY LISTENED TO MY DREAM.
WITHOUT LAUGHING, YOU ALONE

YOU'RE
A KIND-HEARTED MAN.

……

… NO…
THAT …
……
FORMALLY THANK YOU FOR JOINING THE CLUB…
LET ME …
… WELL, THANKS TO THAT…

… RATHER THAN YOU…
I DON'T HAVE THE QUALIFICATIONS TO HEAR THAT…
… YOU DON'T NEED TO THANK ME…

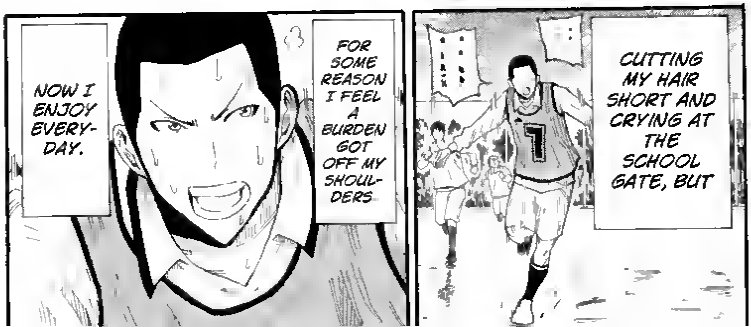

I SHOULD BE…
THE ONE…

UU
UU
UU
UAHH
LIKE THIS
... THANK YOU ...
.....
... TO THANK YOU ...

I BE-
CAME
A MEMBER OF THE SOCCER CLUB.
I'M KOSHIKAWA RINYA.

SECOND YEAR, BUT
ADDRESS ME WITH-OUT HON-ORIFICS.
AND I WANT YOU
TO SPEAK CASUALLY TO ME AS YOU WOULD A PEER.

NICE TO MEET YOU!
EVERYONE AROUND ME IS STILL MAKING A FUSS ABOUT ME


CUTTING MY HAIR SHORT AND CRYING AT THE SCHOOL GATE, BUT
FOR SOME REASON I FEEL A BURDEN GOT OFF MY SHOUL-DERS.
NOW I ENJOY EVERY-DAY.

AIM YOUR SHOT PROPERLY!
NEXT IS SHOOTING PRACTICE!
AND THE FUSS FROM THAT TIME ALWAYS...
HEY! IT'S SLIPPERY SO BE CAREFUL!
GUHE!!
RRRU-UMMBLLEEE
7
WHAT!?
DAMN... ONE MORE TIME...
LET'S REST FOR A MOMENT
HEY, EVERY-ONE, IT'S THUNDER!

AIM THE SHOT...
SHOOT!!
I GET IT, SORA,
BUT LET ME AT LEAST TRY ONCE MORE!!
...
UGH...!!
ドシュウウウ
CRACKLE
BOOM
UWAH!
THAT WAS A REALLY CLOSE ONE!
TO GET... BETTER THAN THE OTHERS.
... I NEED TO PRAC-TICE MORE...
... DAMN ...
I REALLY SUCK...

... SOMEHOW
.....
BECAME CLUMSY.
YOU...
... IN JUST THE LITTLE TIME I TOOK MY EYES OFF OF YOU,

AH...
...
ERM
...
THAT
...
...
BUT
.....
NOW...
I CAN SEE YOU SPAR-KLING
A LITTLE BIT.
.....

LIKE AT THAT TIME.
...HEY
YOU WERE WATCHING.
AH!
HEY! LOOK AT THE SKY!!

I FINALLY GET ONE STEP NEARER.
NOW
ALWAYS SEEING A DREAM.
AT THAT TIME, YOU WERE
NOT JUST THE SIGHT
OF ME SPARKLING.
30